

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Office 912-236-3346 | Fax 912-236-3676 | E-Mail info@ipcsav.org | Website www.ipcsav.org

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OCTOBER 2014

The Son of My Right Hand

acob's youngest son was named Benjamin, meaning "the son of my right hand," that is, "the son of my strength." My youngest son is named Benjamin. Jacob's youngest son was the son of his favorite wife, Rachel. *My* youngest son is the son of my favorite wife, Emily. Ben has literally been at "my right hand" since he graduated from the high chair to the family table. The other children rotated their places around the table, taking turns at their favorite spots. It was never discussed or challenged, but there seemed to be an implicit understanding among the children that when baby Ben joined the table, he needed to be close to dad. Plus, his left-handedness needed to be accommodated. So there he remained while the others moved about. There he remained whether at the regular family table or the formal dining room table ... until mid-August. The nest is officially empty. The process that started seven years ago when we dropped off Drew at Wheaton College is now complete. Big brother was followed by Sam to Wofford, Sally and Abby to the University of Georgia, and now Ben to Georgia College (Milledgeville). The teary trauma when Drew left was repeated unabated as each left. The era of child-rearing which has occupied our home for the last 26 years is now over.

Ben was born bright-eyed, competitive, and eager to keep up with his older siblings. When he was in his high-chair listening to his brothers and sisters recite the catechism during family devotions he would say "Lemme twy" (Let me try). On the driveway basketball court at four and five years old he would attempt to compete with his brothers, (aged 10 and 12), thinking, with perfect earnestness, that he could beat them.

Ben's aggressive competitiveness came out in more violent ways as well. Drew and Sam have never struck each other in anger. Never, not once. Scoff if you wish. It's true. They argued plenty but never physically fought. Neither did Sally or Abby (no surprise there). But Ben? Threw his first punch when he was three. I recall my shock. I went to Emily. "I just saw Ben ball-up his fist and punch his brother!" "Ben, what are you doing? We don't do that." It was the first of many. We learned to call him "Bam-Bam."

He didn't take well to the least hint that he was in any way inferior to his siblings. Abby was always trying to mother him. We have a much-cherished picture of Abby tying his shoe on the basketball court during a game! She could only teach him so much or correct him so far. Eventually he'd announce to her, whether she was right or wrong, "You are not the boss of me." I love that line. I repeat it to Emily all the time.

Ben was usually with me, the tagalong little brother on the sidelines of *Continued Page 2*

IPC Messenger

CONTENTS

- 2 1st Bryan Baptist
- 3 Children's Ministry
- 4 Moral Concerns
- 5 Music Ministry
- 5 Women's Ministry
- 7 Youth Group
- 9 Operation Christmas Child
- 12 Veteran's Day Event



THE SON OF MY RIGHT HAND from page 1

his siblings' activities. He always had a "hot little engine" inside, meaning he was always warm and rarely needed jackets. Many a cold morning at the soccer complex I'd sit on the sidelines, the girls at home with mom, holding Ben like a hot-water bottle to keep warm. Eventually he even was passed around to other parents so they could keep warm too.

He was also his mother's greatest comfort and joy when his brothers became "yucky teenagers" (Emily's terminology). When they were sullen and disrespectful, Ben was as sweet and tender-hearted as ever a little boy was. I maintain that he roots for the University of Miami because his brothers, Southern Cal fans along with his sisters, mocked the University of Miami on Saturday afternoons, hurting his mother's feelings. He sympathized and then allied himself with her loyalties.

I perhaps clung to Ben's childhood longer than the others. I still feel guilty about telling Sam no when he wanted to sit in my lap (I think he was in sixth grade and already six feet tall). From Ben's earliest years my task was to put him to bed while his mother dealt with the older children. I would take him in my arms and rock him, always in the varied repertoire singing Psalm 23 and "Go to Sleep" (Brahm's Lullaby). That was his special song. ("Thank Heaven For Little Girls" with a French accent, thank you Maurice Chevalier, was the girls'.) As he got older and could sense that this special time with daddy was soon to end he would cry each time I sang it. In case you didn't know, Ben is probably our most sensitive and easily hurt child. He is also a bit of a scaredy-pants. When movies would get tense, he literally would leap up and race out of the room. I recall looking over at Emily and asking, "Bathroom?" "No, he's scared." He maintains a tough exterior, but it is only skin-deep.

We say of the three boys, Drew was the fastest, Sam the strongest,

and Ben the most coordinated. He is the best all-around athlete in the family. His first-ever soccer game he scored six goals. At Drew's practices with the Carver Heights' basketball team, I remember Ben (at age five) at a side hoop pumping in shot after shot, leading the coach to say, "How old is he?" He played three sports in high school, achieving first team all-Georgia as a receiver in football and first team all-region in basketball. Even in soccer, to which he gave little attention, he was among the leading scorers on his fine high school team, and if one discounts penalty kicks (which he never took), the most prolific.

The past twelve months have been the proverbial best of times and worst of times. Drew's wedding was cancelled, an emotionally crushing blow; at the same time Sam got the disappointing news that he would not have a spot in the October 2013 Marine Corps Officer Candidate School. Later Sam was admitted to the winter class. good news, but itself another kind of trauma from January until his very, very emotional commissioning in March of 2014. Ben's senior year of high school was a roller coaster of ups and downs terminating in an emotional graduation. Worshipping with Calvin, the culmination of fourteen years of study, was published in April 2014, which was good news. Other familial irons are in the fire. Now this, dropping Ben off at college. It's been a stormy twelve months.

We are blessed beyond measure. Our hearts are full. We lack no good thing. And yet we still continue to cry when roots beget wings. With great anticipation we await our next season of life. "How *lucky* I am to have something that makes saying good bye so hard." Winnie the Pooh was a poor Presbyterian. Let me improve his theology. "How *blessed* we are to have something that makes saying good bye so hard."

Terry Johnson

1st Bryan Baptist Church AND IPC

Three times in the last 27 years I have been asked to speak at First Bryan Baptist Church (1/12/88; 10/14/12; 6/29/14). Wonder why? Here's the story.

There is a long association between First Bryan Baptist Church and the Independent Presbyterian Church. Founder Andrew Bryan (1737-1812) was a slave of Jonathan Bryan, one of the Independent Presbyterian Church's original trustees and, according to church historian David Calhoun, "one of the first Southern planters to promote evangelization of the slaves by black preachers." On the occasion of Andrew Bryan's ordination on January 20, 1788, 45 members were baptized, thereby organizing the first black Baptist church in Savannah. Both First African Baptist and First Bryan Baptist claim descent from this original church. David Calhoun in our history, The Splendor of Grace, continues his narrative:

With the support of William Bryan, the son of Jonathan Bryan, Andrew Bryan wrote that he enjoyed "the rights of conscience to a valuable extent," preaching three times every Lord's Day. He baptized as many as thirty people at a time and conducted worship "in the presence and with the approbation" of many whites. He held to the Calvinistic theology of Jonathan and William Bryan and their friend George Whitefield. By 1792, 235 members and 350 others, who were converted but who had not yet obtained permission of their owners to be baptized, worshiped at Bryan's church. A second black Baptist church was organized in 1799. (65,66)

By the time Bryan died in 1812,

Children's Ministry

FALL FAMILY NIGHT

Make sure and get your costumes ready for a night of fun, games, rides, and prizes! Friday, October 31, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at the corner of Bull and Oglethorpe will be the place to be. New rides, cotton candy, hot dogs, and all the candy you can eat! "You never know how you look 'till you get your picture took!" Grab your friends and visit the photo booth for a snap of your evening together.

We will end the evening with a candy corn eating contest. Winner takes home a \$100 gift card to Target. Call Amy Martin (897–2214) with any questions. Can't wait to see you there!

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

A sign-up sheet for Fall Family Night will be circulated in the middle and high school Sunday School classes and also during the Wednesday night youth group meetings. This is a wonderful event in the life of our church, and you make it happen! If you can come early to help set up at 4:00, that would be most appreciated. If you can stay after the event and help clean up at 8:00, even better! Pizza and coke for those coming early to help set up and a promise of all the candy you can eat!





SUNDAY EVENINGS

We are in full swing for our Sunday evenings downtown and loving it! There is something for everyone.... Youth group ages (7th–12th grades) enjoy supper in our Whitaker Street building and then their small group fellowships. Grades 2nd-6th eat supper first in the fellowship hall and then rehearse with Mrs. VanEck in the choir room located next to the Telfair Chapel. Ages 4 years through 1st grade have a Read-A-Loud in the nursery room located right off the fellowship hall. Please be mindful of the age restrictions of these activities. If you need any information about these groups, call Paul Rodgers, Kathryn Van Eck, or Amy Martin.

Read-A-Louds

Sign-up sheets are now being circulated for our Sunday evening Read-A-Louds. Please consider volunteering for this vital ministry. Just one Sunday evening (15-20 minutes) for the year to read to our four year olds through 1st grade! This is a help to our younger families, as older siblings are in Chapel Choir. Please utilize a sign-up sheet or call the church office 236-3346 or Amy Martin at 897-2214. Many thanks!

Amy

1ST **BRYAN BAPTIST CHURCH** from page 2

his church had grown to 1500 members, and he had founded 10 additional churches. According to Calhoun,

The white Savannah Baptist Association eulogized Andrew Bryan as a pastor who, although suffering "in expressible persecutions," brought "hundreds" to "the knowledge of the truth, as it is in Jesus." White Baptist and Presbyterian ministers were among those who spoke at Andrew Bryan's funeral, which was attended, it was said, by more than five thousand people. (81) Bryan's congregation set "a day for fasting and prayer to select the right man to succeed Bryan as pastor. Andrew Marshall, Bryan's nephew who had been converted through his uncle's preaching and was assisting him, worshiped at Independent Presbyterian Church that day. In his absence from his own church service, Marshall was elected pastor of his uncle's church." (81,82)

In addition to the Andrew Bryan connection, Lowell Mason, composer of many of our most beloved hymn tunes and known as the "Father of Protestant Church Musicians" (e.g. When I Survey, Blest Be the Tie, Joy to the World, From Greenland's Icy Mountains) and superintendent of the Independent Presbyterian Church Sunday School, organized the first Sunday School for blacks in 1826, which operated at IPC until it was turned over to the black church in 1835. Over 100 black children attended every Sunday afternoon and were taught the *Shorter Catechism* and a Bible lesson. Fifteen teachers were needed to conduct the school.

A warm relationship between the churches has persisted ever since, a relationship we hope to perpetuate for years to come.

-Terry Johnson

Moral Concerns LIFE CHAIN

October 5, 2014

Matthew 7:12 So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them...

This Matthew scripture is one we all can quote and most of us have heard since we were young children. Have you ever thought about this verse when thinking about abortion? It is estimated that abortion occurs 3,300 times per day, 137 per hour and 1 every 25 seconds. This puts us slightly over a million per year. This number has fluctuated over the past $41\frac{1}{2}$ years and we are looking at perhaps over 55 million abortions since 1973. I don't know about you, but that number sickens me when I think about it. If 85% of the culture were Christian, and

they had the scriptures pinned in their hearts and minds. I wonder if we would see a remarkable decline of abortion? When our Lord Christ directs lives, most assuredly, those lives would be more likely to make good and wise decisions. Today young people in their teens and twenties would not be going along with all of Satan's lies and would wait for marriage to indulge in sex. The little baby in the womb seems to have been forgotten, and abortions occur routinely. Even 6 out of every 10 women who have an abortion are already mothers, which I'm sure, causes collateral damage to their families. How thankful we are at Independent Presbyterian Church to have pastors who speak strongly on the sanctity of life!

Will we have a strong number of people come out to the Abercorn Post Office on October 5, from 2:30-3:30? If enough



people show up, this would be a strong witness to the city of Savannah and would make a statement that there is a better way than abortion. There seems to be apathy setting in and as a result, the Life Chain has taken a hit the past few years. We need to pray that God's people will come out in force to once again be in solidarity for life while praying togetherholding a variety of pro-life signs. If our life were in jeopardy, would we want an advocate to speak for us? I think so, and this would be living out that scripture in Matthew 7 by being an advocate for the unborn on October 5, during Life Chain.

(The Right to Life Committee will have a free lunch set up after our service for anyone planning to attend!)

> Murle Breer for the Right to Life Committee

MARCH FOR LIFE • JANUARY 21-23, 2015

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

Our dates are set for the 2015 March for Life bus trip! We will be leaving on January 21, and return early in the morning on January 23. Kelly Tours will be our charter company once again, and the motel stop will be the familiar Comfort Inn in Chester, Virginia. Since we will be leaving in the middle of the week, people interested in going on this bus trip should think about making their plans early. Our number was very low last year and we would like to fill our bus in 2015.

We have been making this pilgrimage to Washington, DC to march and speak for the unborn since the very early 90's. Many think it isn't worth the expense and difficulty to go to DC for this march. Most of the time we never see

our Congressmen, but we do MARCH with over 200,000 other pro-lifers from all over the country. We may never know how much of an impact this has or will have on the hearts of the people. I believe God is calling Christians to stand up for what is right and not to be afraid. In this modern day, we have advanced technologies with the sonogram, so we know it is a baby in the womb. Even the view of the early Christian church (Augustine) determined that abortion could only be defined as homicide once formation of life occurred. Today it is estimated that 78% of abortion-minded women choose life when they see the ultrasound and watch the baby and see the heart beat. These advanced technologies are changing the way women look on abortion, but Planned Parenthood seems to ignore all this. They call abortion a voluntary miscarraige! When we speak to our Congressmen or their staff, we can encourage them to stop giving our tax dollars to this the largest abortion provider. It is important to reinforce this awareness by being in Washington, DC every year for "The March for Life." This trip gives opportunity for Christian fellowship, and it is a time to learn more about the life issues-plus we get a glimpse on how government works while being in our nation's Capitol.

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men... -Colossians 3:23

> Murle Breer for the Right to Life Committee



Music Ministry

CHAPEL CHOIR

One of the highlights of my work at IPC is rehearsing with our children. We had over 40 children in our Chapel Choir rehearsals the last two weeks, and I am really delighted to have them all. The following is a list of what goes on in Chapel Choir:

1. As you know, the children are encouraged to memorize the Hymn of the Month and sing it individually to me each month. After singing six months, Jan.-June, or July-December, the children are given an award. Not all of the children participate in this, but many are regularly memorizing and singing the hymns/Psalms each month.

2. The Chapel Choir is also learning to read choral music. In Cherub Choir, 1^{st} and 2^{nd} grade, the children learn note

values, rhythm, time signatures and clefs. In Chapel Choir, all of those pieces are put together on the page, and children have to begin reading the music along with the words.

Right now the Chapel Choir is learning a Thanksgiving song that we will sing some time in November. Also, with Christmas coming ever closer, we will begin practicing music for the Lessons and Carols service.

YOUTH CHOIR

On Sunday, September 7, we began Youth Choir rehearsal. If you are of junior or senior high school age, this choir is for you. We work hard, but also have a lot of fun, and singing for our worship services is a very rewarding endeavor. Please join us on Sundays at 4:00-5:00 p.m.!

SANCTUARY CHOIR

The Sanctuary Choir is enjoying several new members. We are thrilled! We will soon be working on Christmas music and still have room for more members. Please join us if you are able. Rehearsal is on Wednesday evening 6:30-8:30 p.m.

HANDBELL CHOIR

The Handbell Choir began rehearsal on Wednesday, September 17. Mrs. Greg Brunson is the Handbell Choir director.

In Psalm 13, David says, "But I trust in your unfailing love: my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, for He has been good to me." May our singing be a reflection of hearts that trust and rejoice.

> In Christ's service, Kathryn Van Eck

Women's Ministry

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WOC Fall Events and Opportunities for Service
• A Saturday Morning Fellowship Event
Preparing a Tea Party at Home
October 25, from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m.
Third Floor of the Whitaker Street Building
 Holiday Hospitality
Saturday Morning, November 15, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall
 Decorating the Church for the Season
Friday morning, December 12, at 9:00 a.m.
Call Carolyn Hodges (656-1635) or Carol Scott (656-0664)
for more information.





October 2014

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Family Corner October 2014 Years 1-10

"Now THANK WE ALL OUR GOD"

Martin Rinkart, 1636

Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices; Who from our mothers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us, With ever-joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us; And keep us in His grace, And guide us when perplexed, And free us from all ills In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given The Son, and Him who reigns With Them in highest heaven--The One eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore; For thus it was is now, And shall be evermore.

TUNE: NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6. Johann Crüger, 1647

See also thanksgiving Psalms 65, 103, 136

YEARS 11-15

Psalm 75

- To Thee, O God, we render thanks, To Thee give thanks sincere, Because Thy wondrous works declare That Thy great name is near.
- 2 When my appointed time is come, I'll judge with even hand.
- 3 Though earth and all its dwellers melt, I make its pillars stand.
- 4 I to the boastful said, "Boast not!" To vile men, "Lift no horn!
- 5 Do not lift up your horn on high, Nor speak with neck of scorn!"
- 6 For not from east nor west nor wilds Comes exaltation nigh,
- 7 For God is judge, debasing one, Another raising high.
- 8 The Lord pours out a foaming cup Which well-mixed wine contains, And every wicked one on earth Must drink; the dregs he drains.
- 9 But I will tell it evermore, To Jacob's God sing praise;
- 10 And horns of sinners I'll cut off, But just men's horns I'll raise.

TUNE: MEDFIELD (SHEFFIELD) CM (16A) Elements from Scottish Psalter, 1650 and The Psalter, 1912

Psalm 75

The 75th Psalm is a Psalm of Thanksgiving, praising God's righteous judgment, which "puts down one and exalts another" (verse 7). He is "disposer supreme and judge of the earth," in Motyer's words. Ker finds in it (along with the $48^{th} \& 72^{nd}$) "the law and the prophecy of all righteous government." "In singing this Psalm," says Matthew Henry, "we must give to God the glory of all the revolutions of states and kingdoms, believing that they are all according to his counsel, and that he will make them all to work for the good of the church."

Youth Ministry

OCTOBER EVENTS

3rd

Girls' Night at the Rodgers'

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10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> Linville Gorge Trip Camping, Rock Climbing & Rappelling Flyer available for details and registration.

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29th

5th Wednesday Bash Come have fun with us as we change from our typical Wednesday format.

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31<sup>st</sup>

Fall Family Fun Night Come enjoy fun and fellowship at IPC. Students are asked to help by working the event.



For more details on any of these events, email prodgers@ipcsav.org.

### **REGULAR STUDENT MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday School**

9:30-10:30 a.m. Jr. High(2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Whitaker) & Sr. High (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Whitaker)

### **Sunday Nights**

Youth Choir from 4:00–5:00 p.m. Dinner until 7:00 p.m., Whitaker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, following Evening Worship Small Groups (we have seven groups targeting specific genders and grades) from 7:00–7:55 p.m.

### Wednesdays

Youth Dinner and Fun • 6:30 p.m., Whitaker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Youth Bible Study • 7:30–8:15 p.m., Whitaker, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor



# BIBLE STUDIES AND CIRCLE MEETINGS

| OCTOBER |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S       | м  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
|         |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5       | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12      | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19      | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26      | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |
|         |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| Time               | Weekly Bible Studies                                                                    | Location                                                                             | Торіс                | Contact                                                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00-<br>11:30 AM | Tuesday Morning Ladies<br>I <sup>st</sup> Tuesday—brown-bag<br>fellowship until 1:00 PM | Whitaker Street Building, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor<br>(Nursery provided—Axson Building) | Romans               | Peggy Marting<br>(912-598-9870)<br>peggymarting@bellsouth.net |
| 10:00-<br>11:30 AM | Tuesday Morning Young<br>Women                                                          | Whitaker Street Building, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor<br>(Nursery provided—Axson Building) | Book of James        | Dottie Mitchell<br>(912-232-1323)                             |
| 7:30 PM            | Tuesday Evening Garmer                                                                  | Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mitchell's home<br>(133 East 50th Street)                        | Gospel of<br>Matthew | Ron Parrish<br>(912-236-3346)                                 |
| 7:00 PM            | 2:00 PM Thursday Evening Whitaker Street Building, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor<br>Covenant    |                                                                                      | 1 Corinthians        | Nick Bullock<br>(601-341-8304)                                |

| Time               | Ladies' Circle Meetings                                          | Location                                                                                                  | Торіс                                                     | Contact                                                       |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 7             | Tuesday Evening Circle                                           | Mrs. Jane Boatright's home                                                                                | <i>The Envy of Eve</i> by Melissa Kruger                  | Jane Boatright                                                |
| 7:00 PM            | (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday)                                        | (114 Wedgefield Crossing)                                                                                 |                                                           | (912-777-5951)                                                |
| Oct. 14            | <b>T</b> uesday Morning Circle                                   | Mrs. Rita Spitler's home                                                                                  | Knowing God                                               | Linda DePue                                                   |
| 10:30AM            | (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)                                        | (6 Tanner's Row, Pooler, GA)                                                                              | by J. I. Packer                                           | (912-355-5580)                                                |
| Oct. 9             | Thursday Morning Circle                                          | Mrs. Dottie Mitchell's home                                                                               | Book of Acts                                              | Annette Hartley                                               |
| 10:30 AM           | (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)                                       | (133 East 50th Street)                                                                                    |                                                           | (912-598-8018)                                                |
| Oct. 16<br>9:30 AM | Thursday Morning Islands<br>Circle<br>(3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday) | Mrs. Fef Nolen's home<br>(102 Paxton Drive)<br>(Nursery provided by R.S.V.P.—Call Fef<br>at 912-856-4813) | When People are<br>Big and God is<br>Small<br>by E. Welch | Peggy Marting<br>(912-598-9870)<br>peggymarting@bellsouth.net |

### "FINDING FAITH TODAY" RESEARCH PROJECT

Interested in participating? Bryan Stone, a professor and associate dean at Boston University School of Theology, is conducting research on how people in the U.S. come to faith as adults. If you have come to faith or returned to faith in the last three years (aged 18 and older) and are interested in participating in a survey, visit www.bu.edu/cpt/fft.

## **ADDRESS CHANGES**

# Operation Christmas Child

We invite you and your family to join us as we prepare Shoe Box gifts for Operation Christmas Child. It can be difficult to rightly estimate the real value of such a small gift, but we ought not forget that we have a God who can powerfully use small gifts for His own glory.



# A Small Gift Makes a Big Difference

During the summer of my senior year of college, I served as a short-term missionary for three months in Eastern Hungary. While there, I had the privilege of preaching in a few rural church plants. One Sunday, in a small town named Püspökladány, as I waited to preach, there was a time in the service that had been set aside for testimonies. A tall, slim, homely lady named Noemi (a Hungarian form of Naomi) stood before the 100-some odd member congregation and began to share how she had come to faith in Jesus. My Hungarian translator who was prepared to translate as I preached, sat beside me, and as she began speaking, he translated for me. What I heard came as quite a shock! This woman in this small Eastern European town shared that she had come to read the Bible and hear of the Christian faith through tracts that were included in Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoe Boxes that were given to her sons from a local church that made evangelistic use of them as a means of sharing Christ!

As I sat there listening, I recalled that I myself had as a child and young man sent several boxes, most likely very similar to hers, to people whom I'd never met, through Samaritan's Purse. Over the years I had never heard if my boxes had been enjoyed or received. But here was this woman, a mother whom through the kindness of an innocent Christmas gift given to her children, had received the gift of the Kingdom of God through faith in Christ Jesus. I was blown away! Her life, home, and eternity has changed forever through the power of the Gospel shared simply through a gift.

We will be gathering filled boxes in the Fellowship Hall from November 10-19. *How to Pack a Shoebox* brochures will be available, which includes five easy steps to follow, gives gift suggestions, a box label, and a donation envelope for the \$7 shipping fee for each box. For information, please contact the church office at 236-3346. Please join us in this meaningful ministry.

Nick Bullock

#### Mr. & Mrs. Josh Espinosa P.O. Box 6425 Savannah, GA 31414

Miss Lauren Cartularo 116 East Anderson St., Apt. B Savannah, GA 31401

Mr. & Mrs. Walt Rocker 161 W. River Bend Drive Eatonton, GA 31024-5328

CAPT & Mrs. Jared Klajnbart 39 Diamond Avenue Fort Rucker, AL 36362

LtJG & Mrs. Joseph T. Forgeng 1651 Harbor Side Drive Weston, FL 33326-2769

Miss Ali Fruit 1612 Eastern Avenue, Apt. B Baltimore, MD 21231

Mr. and Mrs. James Hill

96239 Oyster Bay Drive Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

#### New email addresses:

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Campbell peggyandjerry1963@gmail.com

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Rustine mark\_rustine@sil.org barbara\_rustine@sil.org

#### College Addresses:

Mr. Ben Johnson 120 West Campus Drive, Apt. 4110 Milledgeville, GA 31061-1922

Miss Elizabeth Woods 646 Northwood Trail Oxford, MS 38655

Mr. William Woods Box #1864 80 Graham Circle Drive Hampden-Sydney, VA 23943 Mr. Sam Brunson Bumby Hall, 324 615 Baxter Street Athens, GA 30609-4000

Mr. Nick Fruit 263 Rodgers Forge Rd., Apt. A Towson, MD 21252

Mr. John P. McLean 2943 University Station Clemson, SC 29632-1001

Mr. Andrew Brodmann 5026 Scotch Pine Avenue Statesboro, GA 30458

Mr. Scotty Brodmann Creswell Hall, Room 661A 415 Baxter Street Athens, GA 30609

Miss Sarah Kaitlin Van Puffelen Mr. Josiah Van Puffelen Box #899 14049 Scenic Highway Lookout Mountain, GA 30750

Miss Abby Johnson c/o University of Georgia John D. Kehoe Center Via Delle Santucce, 2 52044 Cortona (AR), Italy

Miss Amy Rustine P.O. Box 11833 Statesboro, GA 30460

Miss Elise Rustine P.O. Box 12096 Statesboro, GA 30460

Miss Jennifer Daniell Reed Hall 150C A 105 Hooper Street Athens, GA 30609

Mr. Luke MacMillan 662 Madison Street Brooklyn, NY 11221

| Tithes/Offerings |                                                              |                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |  |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Received         | Needed                                                       | Over/Short                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |  |
| \$440,827        | \$508,495                                                    | -\$67,668                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| \$459,542        | \$508,495                                                    | -\$48,953                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| \$136,326        | \$156,460                                                    | -\$20,134                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| \$165,610        | \$195,575                                                    | -\$29,965                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| \$1,202.305      | \$1,369,025                                                  | -\$166,720                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |  |
|                  | Received<br>\$440,827<br>\$459,542<br>\$136,326<br>\$165,610 | Received       Needed         \$440,827       \$508,495         \$459,542       \$508,495         \$136,326       \$156,460         \$165,610       \$195,575 |  |  |  |

# **Announcements & Events**

### **CHURCH IN BEREAVEMENT**

The congregation of Independent Presbyterian Church extends sincere sympathy to:

... former member, *Mrs. Elizabeth Mays* and family on the death of her husband, *Richard Warren Mays*, who passed away on Friday, August 29, 2014, in Savannah, GA.

... *Mr. and Mrs. Pat Adams* and family on the death of Harriette's sister, *Karon Wilson*, who passed away on Thursday, September 18, 2014, in Cumming, GA.

... *Mr. and Mrs. W. Ryon Rambo* and family on the death of Lee's mother, *Carolyn Lanier Burgstiner*, who passed away on Saturday, September 20, 2014, in Savannah, GA.

### IN MEMORIAM

### Joan Cope Paez

Entered the Lord's presence Sunday, August 31, 2014

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

### Birth

### Congratulations to...

*CAPT & Mrs. Collier Wright (Joanna)* on the birth of their son, *Colin Monroe Wright*, born September 3, 2014, in Columbus, GA.

### MEN'S READING CLUB

The Men's Reading Club will meet on Thursday, October 9, 12:00 p.m. (rescheduled from September 25). The assignment to read is: *Institutes Vol. II*, **IV.xiv.1-IV.xvi.32**, pages 1276-1359.

It will also meet on Thursday, October 30. The assignment to read is: *Institutes Vol. II*, **IV.xvii.1-IV.xviii.20**, pages 1359-1448. Bring your brown-bag lunch and join Reverends Parrish and Johnson in the Administration Bldg., in the upstairs classroom.

### THE LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper in our morning worship service on Sunday, October 5. Because of the exceptional blessing we have in this sacrament and the danger of eating and drinking unworthily, it is necessary that we come to it with knowledge, faith, repentance, love and with hungering and thirsting souls after Christ and His benefits. The congregation is encouraged to use all appointed means, public and private, to come to the Lord's Table, depending upon God for the gracious preparation of the heart according to His promise (Psalm 10:17).

### SESSION/DIACONATE MEETING

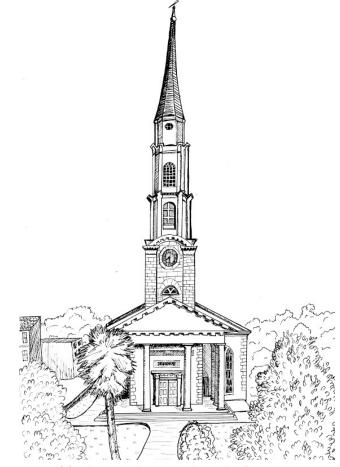
Our regular Session/Diaconate meeting will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

### FALL INQUIRERS' CLASS

It's not too late to join the Fall Inquirers' Class which started September 28, and will continue through November 9, at 9:30 a.m. in the Mary Telfair Chapel. The objective of this class is to introduce interested persons to the history, doctrine, practices, and people of our church. All are welcome to participate. Nursery will be provided.

### **BLUFFTON SERVICE**

The Bluffton evening services will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Bluffton United Methodist Church, 101 Calhoun Street (across from Church of the Cross). Nursery is available. Please check the bulletin each week to see who will be bringing the message. Please come if you live in the Bluffton area and bring your friends. For more information, please contact Wallace Milling at *wmillin@gmail.com*.



The drawing above was drawn by Amy Rustine

# **October Birthdays**

#### 1 Bill Eaves

- 1 Jane Elizabeth Sanders
- 2 Wallace Milling
- 3 Sarah Miles
- 5 Alice Daily
- 6 Lindsey Van Puffelen
- 6 Leighann Parrish
- 6 Hailey Williams
- 6 Paul Rodgers
- 7 Dot Richardson
- 7 Connie Hartridge
- 7 Andrew Parrish
- 8 Griffin Weikert
- 10 Heidi Bristol
- 10 Heidi Blair
- 10 Sarah Blake Rodgers

- 10 John Heritage
- 11 Lillie Black
- 11 Allie Nolen
- 11 Betty McLaurin
- 12 Jack Bristol
- 12 Ruthie Mullininx
- 12 Louis Oswald
- 12 Anne McCune
- 13 Philip Hunnings
- 13 Conrad Martin
- 14 David Pierce
- Inger Prescott
   Lucy Biemiller
- 16 Rachel McKee
- 17 Doug Winks
- 19 Anna Gross

- 19 Linae Maganini
- 20 Tripp Jackson
- 22 Sarah Crowe
- 22 Mark Dusek
- 22 Adelaide Murns
- 22 Shawn Tice
- 23 Bob Dykema
- 23 Hunter Lanier
- 23 Craig Shipes
- 23 Mary VanPuffelen
- 24 Mark Stall
- 24 Clay Hostetter
- 24 Rebecca Buchman
- 24 Diane Sayler
- 24 Jessica Wiggins
- 25 Margaret Knoche

- 26 Rebecca Martin
- 26 Dede Roberts
- 26 Megan Warren
- 27 Tricia Barrett
- 27 Heyward Berry
- 28 Delyn Barksdale
- 28 Charles Moore
- 28 Cindy Sutlive
- 28 Jonathan Marshall
- 29 William Breazeale
- 29 Melvis Edenfield
- 29 Gretchen Reese
- 29 Tim Barrett
- 29 Elizabeth Wood

# THANK YOU NOTES

#### Dear Congregation,

Madeline and I are so thankful for all the prayers and support over the last few weeks as the boys have been in and out of the hospital. Times have been tough but God is good and we know the prayers helped the twins and us through the recovery. We are sad to leave as the Army takes us to Alabama for six months and then off to another adventure. We hope to come back and visit and worship with everyone again. Thanks again for the great times, the fellowship and the support with Mason and Nolan.

> In Christ, Jared, Madeline, Mason and Nolan Klajnbart

To our dear family of Independent Presbyterian Church:

For your love and kindness shown to Joan and me; for the three plus years of continued prayer in her, our, behalf; and prayers now for us the family; and for all the many cards, calls and expressions of sympathy and love; for the meals which sustained us each day; for the reception after Joan's memorial service and all the loving hugs; for the beautiful Peace Lily sent to the family by our church; for the beautiful music by our Choir and Philharmonic Chorus that Kathryn pulled together so well; for the gorgeous floral arrangement from our choir last Sunday, the 14th, in memory of Joan; for the memorials given to our church and also to Hospice; for Terry's wonderful and inspiring message, and tribute to Joan; for all of you, our dear friends, I give thanks. You are all special to me.

> I n Christ's love, Jean Ennis

#### Dear IPC Family,

As I become nearer to a bionic man (1 hip replacement 5 years ago and my recent knee replacements—both of them!), I find the outpouring of support (visits, cards, meals, etc.) to be even more remarkable than the miracles the doctors have worked.

I can only say I was overwhelmed.

Thank you.

In Christ's name, Steve Bell

#### Dear Friends at IPC,

When sorrow strikes it is a blessing to have the prayers and comforting words/hugs from fellow believers. Thanks to all of you for the kindness shown at the unexpected passing of my brother, Nick Cooley, on Aug. 13. My family was sustained and encouraged throughout the days preceding his memorial service in Phoenix, AZ. God answered many prayers and it was a time of healing for many family members.

> Sincerely in Christ, Karen (and Bill)Hansill

#### Greetings,

I am a member or will be of First Scots in Beaufort.

Myself and Ian Chapman had attended the Low Country Boil (very yummy!) and the evening service (a blessing— I encouraged my son in Arizona to listen to it!).

Anyway, it was a pleasure to have met a few folks and enjoy the homemade ice cream and the boil! It is my hope to visit IPC in Savannah in the future.

Thank you all for all you have done on behalf of Alex and First Scots.

Carlina Davis

# The IPC Messenger

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID SAVANNAH, GA

Independent Presbyterian Church P. O. Box 9266 Savannah, GA 31412

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# Veteran's Day Event at Point Pleasant November 8, 2014

ur church is planning an event on November 8 in conjunction with the Veteran's Day holiday, at Point Pleasant to honor the service of military veterans in our church and the surrounding community. In the past, we have held a BBQ event for the military families in our church. The idea is to expand this to all of the veterans in our church, as well as conducting an outreach to the greater active duty military and veteran community. Our church is an excellent fit for the military and veteran community, especially in these times of dramatic change to the traditional moral foundation of the military culture.

We will have a BBQ meal, grilled onsite, followed by a short program and message. Throughout all of this we will extend an invitation for those attending the event to visit IPC as a place of worship. The meal is targeted to start at 11:30 a.m. and we would want to complete the program by 1–1:30 p.m., depending on the number attending. More details will follow on the agenda for the day. We have a plan to contact the active military community and veteran's organizations in the Savannah area, to cast the seeds for this celebration.

For this event to be successful, in honoring the service of our veterans, and growing our congregation and God's Kingdom, we will need volunteers to support it. We will need people to serve on a committee to complete planning and execution of the event, volunteers to serve on November 8, setting up, preparing/serving food, cleanup/teardown, greeting attendees, and most important, spreading the word of welcome to IPC. If you are active duty or a past serving veteran, please mark November 8 on your calendar to attend this event. Anyone interested in volunteering to support our veteran's day event, as a member of the planning/ execution committee or to work on the day of the event, please contact me by phone or email below. Volunteers do not need to be veterans! I would ask for everyone to pray for God's blessing on this outreach to the active military and veteran community in Savannah.

> Dexter Brewer dbrewer@coastalnow.net 912-727-4418

(If no answer, please leave a message and I will return your call.)