



Irvington PRESBYTERIAN Church • JUNE 2022

THE CARILLON

SOMEONE once described faithfulness to me as walking through the doors that God opens for you (and not turning back to get into the ones already closed). We don't always get to choose what doors open to us in life and as a church, but we do get to decide whether we will walk through the open door or if we cling to the closed door. At the beginning of 2022, I invited IPC to be an open church—open to God, open to neighbor, open to God's future. And as the program year comes to a close, it's worthwhile to recount our faithful instances walking through open doors.

Together with St. Barnabas, we co-sponsored the Khopolwak family from Afghanistan and have diligently been at work helping them settle into their new home in a new community in a new country. Countless volunteers have spent countless hours walking through open doors.

Together with St. Barnabas, we merged our youth ministries in a new venture, imagining a different model of faith formation and a new configuration of Christian community. Each Sunday evening, a group of young adults walk into God's future.

During Lent and Holy Week, we worshipped ecumenically with Aldersgate United Methodist Church and St. Barnabas, in very distinct services, representing the diversity and breadth of the Christian tradition and the beauty found within it.

At the May Session meeting, I shared a meditation on Acts 16:6-10. In the story, Paul, Silas, and Timothy are off on a journey to share what has happened in and through Jesus Christ. And we are told that they were "forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia." Then, in the next verse, when they attempted to enter Bithynia, "the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them." Two closed doors. But they kept knocking and kept trying and eventually cross over to Macedonia "being convinced that God called us...." A door opened for them. Paul, Silas, and Timothy faithfully walked through it.

As we enter the summer months, may we continue to have the courage and faith to walk through open doors; and may we have such trust and hope in God that when we do encounter a closed door, we persevere knowing that the God who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

Grace and Peace, Rev. Blaine Crawford

SUN JUNE 5 RSVP PAGE 2

**Youth Sunday, Confirmation,
and our annual BBQ is back!**

WED JUNE 15 RSVP PAGE 2

**Burke VA Presbyterian Youth Choir
performs at IPC + Dinner**

July through Labor Day—stay tuned!



WORSHIP

YOUTH SUNDAY WORSHIP + CONFIRMATION June 5 at 10:30am

Youth will meet in the Sanctuary and participate in Worship. Confirmands making a profession of faith include Hudson Bayer, Hazel Blanton, Maxim Drake, Madeline O'Reilly, and Sebastian Sledge.

BBQ PICNIC FOLLOWING WORSHIP June 5 at noon

We are thrilled to announce the much awaited return of the annual church picnic/BBQ! This event will take place immediately following the Pentecost/Youth Sunday service on June 5th. We are looking for volunteers in the following areas. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Crawford:

- _ Grilling volunteers for hamburgers and hot dogs.
- _ Food contributions such as side items, deserts or any other signature dish you would like to contribute.
- _ Food prep volunteers to help with prep on Saturday, June 4th as well as Sunday morning prior to the worship service.

Please RSVP by May 31st @ www.bit.ly/3MNXJUN

BILL CROSBY We will remember his life together in worship on **Sunday, June 12**. He will be laid to rest at a small family service.

YOUTH CHOIR CONCERT + DINNER

IMPACT (Inspiring Music & Praise; Acclaiming Christ Together) the youth choir of Burke (VA) Presbyterian Church will perform a free outdoor concert at IPC on Wednesday, June 15. A fellowship meal will be served at 5 p.m. (free will offering). The concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the back lawn. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket. In case of inclement weather, the meal will be moved to the auditorium and the concert will be moved into the sanctuary. We are looking for volunteers in the following areas. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Crawford:

- _ Food contributions such as side items, deserts or any other signature dish you would like to contribute.
- _ Set up and serving volunteers starting at 4:30pm.

Please RSVP to the fellowship meal by June 10th @ www.bit.ly/3sU615A

Agape Fund Through the generosity of the Agape Fund, RIP Medical Debt, a NYS Chartered 501(c)(3), forgave over \$300,000 of medical debt for New Yorkers in the region. Nearly 40% of American households deal with medical debt or have difficulties paying medical bills. RIP Medical Debt works to abolish medical debt for individuals. As their website says, "Medical debt forgiveness gives struggling individuals a fresh start, allows them to seek the continued medical care they need, and helps along the path to financial stability." A fresh start. Continued care. Forgiveness. Sounds a lot like the grace-filled agape love God extravagantly shares with creation. To learn more about RIP Medical Debt, please visit their website at www.ripmedicaldebt.org.

WORSHIP LIVE-STREAM www.youtube.com/channel/UCSK-tCPuoETKH7O_Xl1vb9SQ

Streaming Help We are currently seeking additional volunteers to help stream our Sunday morning worship service. You do not need any special technical knowledge (though a general comfort level on computers is recommended) and you can be trained in one meeting. You can also shadow the more experienced volunteers until you are comfortable running it on your own. We are looking for individuals who would be willing to serve the church in this way once every 4-6 weeks. If interested, please contact **Jonathan Ackerman**, 914-400-7268 jonathanack@gmail.com

CHURCH GROUNDS: Planting + Spruce-Up Day

Saturday June 4, 10am to noon

Calling everyone—members, Sessions, Deacons, PW, Sunday School, Scouts, Youth Groups!

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY for all ages and all abilities to work together to beautify our property and to have fun doing it! We will have tasks appropriate to everyone, plenty of flowers and greenery, dirt galore and chances to exercise your creative side. Do wear old clothes and bring a trowel and gloves. Plan to get dirty—that's half the fun.

QUESTIONS? Contact Marge Hone of the Property Committee or Griffin Bancroft.
margehone@gmail.com

MEN'S MINISTRY

The Men's Ministry will gather on Saturday, June 4th, at 7:00 a.m. in the church parlor. Join us for conversation, coffee, and fellowship. On June 18th, the group is planning a day hike near Cold Spring. If you are interested in hiking, or in the men's ministry, please speak with Jonathan Ackerman.



Christian Education

Seeds

BEING A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST IS A LONG HAUL. It is joy-filled and frustrating, miraculous and at times disillusioning. We make a conscious decision to follow Christ (over and over again); we try to hew as closely to his path as we are able (at times failing miserably); we try to be persistent and intentional in our seeking. Through times of both spiritual growth and desert wandering, we are carried by the faith, prayers, and worship of our brothers and sisters in this church and beyond. We persevere because the prize – the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14) – is precious beyond measure.

Which is why I can't help but wonder about all the people who have drifted away from church in these difficult days. Why do they leave? The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:18-23) suggests that some, like seeds on unsuitable ground, fall away due to lack of engagement with the Word of God; for want of roots or a relationship with our Lord; or because of the rush of other possibilities competing for our time and hearts. Perhaps there are others who have simply become disillusioned with some aspect of the church or church life.

How can we cultivate a deeper involvement in and commitment to the life of faith and the life of the church? How do we better prepare ourselves to bear fruit? I would suggest (not without bias) that one way is being part of adult education – a continuous delving into matters of faith, and how we live out our faith – that can strengthen our grounding in this community. “Learn from me,” Jesus says in Matthew 11:29. Other versions say “Learn of me,” or “Learn with me”. Whatever the translation, as disciples we are called to be life-long learners, growing in our understanding and deepening our love for God and one another.

—Lisa Niven, Director of Christian Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL Masks are recommended but not required.

June 5 Pentecost, Confirmation, and Youth Sunday! Sunday School classes come to the sanctuary at 10:30 for the full service, followed by the spring picnic.

SUMMER SUNDAYS JUNE 12, 19 & 26

A class for children age 3 through rising 3rd graders will meet during worship in the classroom below the Parlor. Older children are welcome to serve as classroom helpers. If you are interested in teaching for one class, please be in touch with Lisa. Curriculum is provided. Sign-up at the picnic on June 5.

ACOLYTES

June 5 Adelaide Sledge

CONFIRMATION

Members of the Confirmation class will be introduced by their Mentors and be Confirmed during the worship service on June 5th. Members of this class making a profession of faith include: Hudson Bayer, Hazel Blanton, Maxim Drake, Madeline O'Reilly, and Sebastian Sledge.

IPC & ST.B's YOUTH GROUPS

The Youth Groups meet with Youth Director David Bryan from 5:00-6:30 on Sunday evenings.

Hosted by IPC:

June 05 Middle School

June 12 Middle & High School

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Children of all ages (as well as parents and friends!) are invited to meet at the church at 10:00 am on Saturday, June 4th to help do spring planting. Bring your gardening gloves, and trowels if you have them. Ice pops will be available! For more information, contact Griffin Bancroft-Baines at (914) 907-9570.

ADULT EDUCATION

We want to hear from you! Christian Education committee members and interested friends will be meeting over the summer to plan a program of adult classes for the 2022-23 academic year, in addition to Rev. Crawford's weekday Bible Study. If you want to be part of the planning group, have an idea for a class, or would like to teach, please be in touch with George Bollenbacher or Lisa Niven.

BOOK CLUB

People We Meet on Vacation by Emily Henry

Friday, June 10 at 9:00 am via Zoom

Alex and Poppy have nothing in common, yet they are the very best of friends. For most of the year they live far apart but every summer, for a decade, they have taken one glorious week of vacation together. After a falling out two years ago, they agree to go on one more vacation together. What could possibly go wrong? (Goodreads) For more information or a Zoom link: susan@susanjbreen.com



Board of Deacons



The 2022 Annual Rivertowns Hunger Walk Hits a Home Run

Thanks to the tireless organizing efforts of the dynamic duo of Deacons Melissa Brown and Rachel Glynn, the May 15, 2022 version of the CROP Walk set an IPC record for participation and donations. Thirty six people of all ages and assorted canines made all or part of the trek from the church to Lyndhurst along the Aqueduct.

Donated IPC pizza, Bagel Emporium Bagels, and fruit fueled the walkers. A raffle spiced up the proceedings with our own Dr. Reuben Garcia winning a gift certificate to MP Taverna.

To date, \$6,248 was raised. Twenty-five percent comes back to the church and will go to Feeding Westchester. The remaining seventy-five percent will go to Church World Services earmarked for humanitarian aid in the Ukraine refugee crisis.

IN OTHER NEWS, the deacons continue to help our Afghan refugee family with a \$500 grant from The Agape Fund that will purchase a stroller/accessories to be used from infancy thru preschool.

Also, \$500 each was sent to Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings and Tarrytown for camp scholarships for needy children.

The Deacons work sending cards for the sick and providing rides for medical appointments continues.

Music Notes



Dear IPC Family:

IN THE FINAL CARILLON of the 2021-22 program year, I first offer a note of gratitude, then a reflection on another formative figure in my faith journey, and finally a preview of the theme of my articles for the 2022-23 program year.

Profound gratitude to each and every singer in Chancel Choir! This program year was filled with the highest ups and lowest downs. From Section Leaders only to Chancel Choir only to congregational singing, from masks required to optional, from vaccines optional to required... in the face of all of that, I asked for the highest degree of flexibility, patience, and generosity of the Chancel Choir. They always did so with grace. In the face of impossible odds, they managed to completely fulfill their role as defined in the Book of Order "to lead and support the congregation in the singing of prayer," week after week after week. I know I speak for the entire congregation when I say that I thank God for them.

It is a gift from God to lead a music ministry – to lead (along with the Chancel Choir) the singing of prayer, and to work with wonderful people like the singers of IPC's Chancel Choir and the instrumentalists from our congregation just to name a couple. And to name a third, to have the chance to show a young person how the pipe organ works! I had the pleasure of giving an impromptu demonstration of our organ to some young people after church a few months ago, and I couldn't help but remember "Miss Marj." Miss Marj was the Director of Music at the church where I was baptized. My dad moved on to a new church when I was four years old, so my memories of my first church are few and distant – I don't have any of Miss Marj

Continued on next page.

playing the organ (though I remember being at her house a few times). I do remember that at a later point in childhood – maybe when I started organ lessons – my mother told me that Miss Marj was a big part of fostering my love of church music. I remember her summing up my relationship with Miss Marj with: “the two of you got along famously!” Miss Marj, her husband Tim (also an organist), and my parents had a very positive relationship and remained very friendly after we moved in 1990. Sadly, Miss Marj died 10 years ago at the age of 60 after a courageous battle with cancer. Thankfully, I found her on Facebook maybe a year or two before – her notes of encouragement on whatever videos I posted of me playing or conducting were so meaningful, and I treasure them a decade later.

In spite of no memory of her playing the organ or even appreciating the organ at that time, I am certain that Miss Marj and her fostering an open music ministry at my first church – open even to toddler at the time (me) – played a vital role in my faith journey and eventually being called to go into church music. Hearing Rev. Crawford’s call at January’s annual meeting for IPC to be an open church was music to my ears (pun intended). Throughout the entirety of my ministry, I have worked to foster an open music ministry at each church I have served, including IPC since 2016, with the staunch belief that it takes an open music ministry to have an open church (and vice versa).

Throughout the 2022-23 program year, I will be offering reflections on open music ministry. Perhaps you might have some “who/what/where/when/why/how” percolating, such as: Who participates in an open music ministry? What are the key ingredients for a successful open music ministry? Where does excellence fit in an open music ministry? When is it a challenge to have an open music ministry? Why have an open music ministry? How does an open music ministry please God and make IPC a beacon of light in the community?

And to answer such questions, I will draw on past experiences as I openly (!) examine what goes into an open music ministry.

Meanwhile, I wish you and your families a summer filled with rest, relaxation, joy, and the overwhelming grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May it be so, Jon

Presbyterian Women

TRADES OF HOPE SALE SUCCESS!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Trade of Hope sale that took place during the month of April. With your support we generated \$836 in sales, which will do good in so many different ways:

_ \$167 went directly to IPC to be used as part of our mission fund that will be distributed later in the year

We helped fund Trade of Hope projects:

- _ 2 trees were gifted to areas of extreme poverty, which will provide work for women in these area
- _ 3 days of care at Elevate Academy in support of US trafficking survivors

We received credits for products that we used to purchase items that we’ll gift to our refugee family as they prepare for the birth of their children:

- _ Blanket
- _ Stuffed animals





GOOD SHEPHERD Early Childhood Center

AT GOOD SHEPHERD, the school year is coming to a close. Due to the Pandemic, we have weathered another turbulent and stressful year. Yet, we have had a remarkable year of growth, exploration, learning, fostering friendships, and most importantly, fun. One of the many things that this continuing pandemic experience is shining a light on, is just how important it is for preschoolers to attend a stimulating early childhood program. We are honored to provide such a program to local families.

Another thing that we have learned is how to meaningfully support one another during tough times. Many of us have faced incredible challenges recently and our lives are constantly changing in response to the pandemic. We are building greater resilience while modeling for our children how to successfully negotiate life, both the wonderful moments and the not so wonderful. Personally, I am immensely grateful for the support and out-pouring of love that I have received from the GS family. I have also observed wonderful moments as parents help one another out or staff provide one another with stress relief or a child offers help to a friend in distress. Social emotional skills are essential and are the building block for all higher learning.

Our end of year celebrations will again be modified. Celebrations will be outdoors class by class throughout early – mid-June. Many of our classes will be in session through much of June as they make-up time for Covid-19 closures. We have so much to celebrate as the children have grown in a myriad of ways! Our staff continue to go and above board in the service of our community whilst facing incredible challenges in their work. Our Ice-Cream Social on Friday, June 3rd, 4:30-6 pm, will be our first opportunity to gather as a whole school in two years. Penny Lick Ice-Cream will be here and we look forward to mingling with our families!

Our summer program is ready for its second year! It will be a smaller program with 3 classrooms and the same fun and excitement as our pilot year.

School year enrollment is going well. We are full in some classrooms and have limited space in others. Anyone interested in enrolling, can contact me at Mandy.Landivinec@irvingtonpresbychurch.org. Like many others, some of our staff are reassessing their life goals, and as a result, there will be some staff changes this September. We look forward to our continued growth and evolution as we continuously work to provide a high-quality early childhood program.

Thank you to everyone who supported Good Shepherd this year and did their part in assisting us to keep everyone safe and healthy. Our children are blessed to have such caring individuals looking out for their well-being.

Mandy Landivinec, GSECC Educational Director

IPC Grounds Day! **Saturday June 4, 10AM to noon**

Calling everyone to help plant and tidy up our church grounds!
All congregation, Deacons, PW, Sunday School, Scouts, MS/HS Youth Groups.

CONTACTS: Office *and* Officers

Irvington Presbyterian Church

Office Hours 8:30am-3:00pm

914 591 8124

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phyllis.worthington@irvingtonpresbychurch.org

Good Shepherd Early Childhood Center

Mandy Landivinec, Education Director

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914 591 4104

Office Courtesy

The IPC Staff wish to request that if you drop off any items in the church office, as a courtesy please leave a note regarding the purpose of the drop-off and add a name if someone is to pick up. After 30 days, any unknown items will be discarded. Thank you for your cooperation.

Flower Donations

Next available donation date is June 19th. Flower donations will suspend for July and August, commencing again in September. Please contact Phyllis at the Church Office, 914-591-8124 or phyllis.worthington@irvingtonpresbychurch.org

Bulletin Announcements

Please submit announcements for the bulletin to our Church Administrator, Phyllis Worthington, no later than the Wednesday prior to the Sunday you wish it to be published.

Carillon Submissions

Manuscripts from staff and officers for The Carillon are due the 15th of the month prior to publication. Please submit articles to Melissa Brown or the church office. Please submit any calendar dates such as monthly meetings.

COMMISSIONER TO PRESBYTERY

Betsy Bollenbacher

SESSION

Christian Education

George Bollenbacher

Communication

Jonathan Ackerman

Finance and Stewardship

Timothy Sledge,
George Bollenbacher

Good Shepherd

Barbara Flye,
Erin Blanton

Membership and Fellowship

Jessica O'Reilly,
Sarah Seitz

Memorial Garden

Jessica O'Reilly

Mission

Barbara Hanna

Nominating

Susan Breen,
Mary Bongiovi

Personnel

Erin Blanton,
Bill Bayer

Property

Marge Hone,
Bill Bayer

Worship and Music

Mary Bongiovi

Treasurer

Gordon Elliot,
Michael Blanton,
assistant

Clerk

Nancy McKenzie

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Joyce Chaluisan

Asst. Moderator

Rachel Glynn

Recording Secretary

Betsy Bollenbacher

Corresponding Secretary

Tom Rusk,
Rachel Glynn

Treasurers

Krisanne Bayer

Board Members

Melissa Brown
Jenipher Kumwenda
Elizabeth Lindberg
Sue Maley
Donna Taylor

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Melissa Campbell

Co-Treasurers

Amy Kilbury
Liesbeth Severiens Parke

Recording Secretary

Melissa Campbell

Corresponding Secretary

Claudia Hueston

Attic Sale Chair

TBD

Board Members

Griffin Bancroft-Baines
Carol Brill
Keach Hagey
Erika O'Shea
Leola Specht

The Rivertowns Hunger Walk committee thanks IPC for your continued support and prayers!

— RACHEL & MELISSA, DEACONS

JUNE

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|--|---|--|--------|---|
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 AM IPC Men's Group 10:00 AM IPC Grounds Day |
| 5 YOUTH SUNDAY, CONFIRMATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30 AM Livestream Worship 12:00 PM BBQ/RSVP 5:00 PM MS Youth Meeting | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 PM Session Meeting | 10 | 11 |
| 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30 AM Livestream Worship 5:00 PM MS/HS Youth Group | 13 | 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Deacon Meeting at Church | 15 Dinner & Concert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Dinner, free will, RSVP 6:30 PM Burke Youth Choir Concert | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30 AM Livestream Worship 12:00 PM Christian Ed Cmte | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM Dora Rizzo Memorial Service 12:00 PM Memorial Reception |
| 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:30 AM Livestream Worship | 27 | 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Fire Inspection | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |

Take advantage of AMAZON SMILE

Rebates 0.5% of purchases directly to IPC/PW.

Choose Irvington Presbyterian Church, NY as your charity.

<https://smile.amazon.com>

**The Men's Ministry gathers
Saturday, June 4 at 7am in the parlor.**

More details on page 2—a hike is planned for July!

**It's not just for IPC anymore...
The Rivertowns Hunger Walk**

Raise your hand if you have new ideas and would like to help spread our enthusiasm throughout the Rivertowns.

And it's not too late to donate to this year's.

Tick CROP Walk at...

<https://onrealm.org/IrvingtonPresbyCh/-/form/give/now>

**Join our private Facebook
'members only' group conversation!**

www.facebook.com/groups/224607772199766



**One time giving or
easy automatic contributions...**

<https://onrealm.org/IrvingtonPresbyCh/-/form/give/now>



The Irvington Presbyterian Church CARILLON is published monthly, September through June, by the Irvington Presbyterian Church to inform congregation and friends of church activities, invite participation in our Christian fellowship and spread the good news of the Gospel.

25 North Broadway, Irvington, New York 10533 914 591 8124

Submissions for The Carillon are due the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Please email completed articles to MELISSA BROWN or the church office.