

# the WINDOW

Views from  
Independent  
Presbyterian Church

June 2017  
Vol. 70 Issue 6



PMUAB Appeal pg. 3



Events pgs. 4- 5



Highland Hall Project pg. 8

## Changing How We Communicate: New Website, New eUpdates, New Annual Report

**D**id you know the average American spends more than 10 hours per day using tablets, smartphones, computers and TVs? Yet, most people only spend 15 seconds on a new website. Your time is valuable, so we've taken steps to make it easier to learn about classes, ministries and special events.

Independent Presbyterian Church's new website puts information and sign ups at your fingertips with just a few clicks! The address is still [www.ipc-usa.org](http://www.ipc-usa.org). Here's where to find content:

**Donate/Make a Pledge** by clicking on the "Give Online" box at the top right of any screen OR go to "Give" then "Give Online." One form allows you to select what the money is for (pledge, memorial, gift, etc.) and where you want it to go (Annual Operating, IPC Foundation, CFAF, etc.). You can also sign up for recurring pledge payments.

**View calendar** by scrolling down on the homepage until you see the large picture with words "Events" below OR go to "Connect" then "Calendar." To see all meetings, classes and events for the day, click on "IPC Daily Calendar." You'll also see a special events calendar below. Click on the events for more information and to sign up (if required).

**Sign ups** can be accessed via the homepage by scrolling down until you see "Sign Up" OR go to "Connect" then "Sign Ups." ALL active registrations can be found there. Plus, the payment system is now integrated

into registrations. That means you enter your personal information and payment in one place. No additional payment links! (*TIP: A registration "ticket" is your RSVP, not a physical ticket.*)

The **Membership directory** hasn't changed. But it can now be found under "Connect" then "Membership

Directory." Haven't signed up? Contact Marsha Harbin at (205) 933-3715.

**Music & Fine Arts** is now located under "Worship" along with "Services" & "Sermons."

**Volunteer or learn about Strengths in Service** by going to "Serve."

**Christian Education** is now under "Learn."

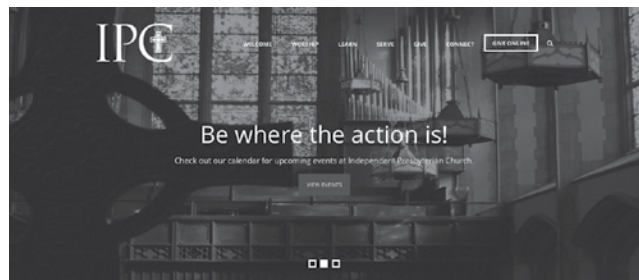
**Groups** for children, youth and adults can be found under "Connect."

**The Window and Updates** are under "Connect" then "News."

**The IPC Foundation** and its Annual Reports are located under "Give." **The IPC Foundation Annual Report recently got a NEW look too! Learn more on page 7.**

**Also, the Family eUpdates, IPC Congregational eUpdates, Obituary notices and Music & Fine Arts News are updated.** Aren't getting them? If you received them in the past, check your email junk folder. If you've never subscribed, sign up at the bottom of any page on our website. Contact Marsha if you have any problems.

The Communications Team has spent months researching and developing these new tools to make it easier for you to get involved in life at IPC!



At Independent Presbyterian Church, we believe God calls us to be a Christian community, actively engaged in transforming lives through our living faith in Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. You are invited to worship here and to discover ways to grow your faith, serve in ministry to others, and build relationships through fellowship. All are welcome.



Consider this...

## Our Summer Stories



Every summer has a story. Here at IPC, new stories and memories are created over these hot summer days every year. Young children will continue to explore and deepen their relationship with God at Vacation Bible School. Their older friends will join a Tribe of Israel for a week and learn more about Jacob at the Children's Fresh Air Farm. Our youth will be serving in Atlanta and here

in Birmingham over the summer. We'll also wish a group of IPC members travelling mercies as they embark on a mission trip to assist a church in Mexico. Of course, construction crews will be hard at work renovating Highland Hall, and staff members will be preparing for upcoming fall classes and programs.

As you embark on your adventures this summer, we want to ensure you have an easy way to hear these stories and to share your own as well. Our new website will enable us to do just that. Please take a few minutes to explore the new features. You will be just a few clicks from the latest news, events and sign ups. You'll be able to find an online giving form that will allow you to make gifts and even set up automatic

pledge payments. You'll still be able to join us from anywhere in the world on Sundays via the livestream. To get to the livestream, just go to the top of the Sermons page in the Worship section.

We hope you will join us every Sunday. But if you can't, try to make time on Sunday, June 11 for Presbyterian Ministries United Appeal of Birmingham. It will be a chance to learn more about how this fund helps people in need through IPC, Kirkwood and Living River. Yes, Living River is now part of this appeal. Some of the money collected on June 11 will help fund scholarships for its summer camps. You can learn more about it on the next page.

Enjoy these next few sunshine filled months. I cannot wait to hear stories about your summer adventures!

All the Best,

Bill

William J. Carl III, Senior Pastor of Independent Presbyterian Church

### GUIDE TO NEW IPC WEBSITE

[www.ipc-usa.org](http://www.ipc-usa.org)

Words in **BOLD** are the menu names.

Bulleted words are the page names.

*Italicized* words are subpages.



#### Welcome

- New to IPC?
- What We Believe
- Meet our Pastors & Leadership
- Careers
- Facilities
- Contact Us

#### Worship

- Services
- Sermons
- Labyrinth
- Music & Fine Arts

#### Learn

- Adult Christian Ed
- *Sunday Classes*
- *Weekday Classes*
- Youth Christian Ed
- Children's CE
- IPC Day School

#### Serve

- Service Opportunities
- Missions
- Mission Trips
- Care & Counseling

#### Give

- Online Giving
- IPC Foundation
- Apply for IPCF Grant
- Annual Reports

#### Connect

- Calendar
- News
- Sign Up Links
- Groups
- Membership Directory
- IPC Online Store

### THE HENRY M. EDMONDS SOCIETY

Join the society by leaving a legacy gift to the IPC Foundation. Learn more at [www.ipc-usa.org/henry-edmonds-society](http://www.ipc-usa.org/henry-edmonds-society). You can also contact IPC Foundation Executive Director Denise Moore or Rev. Lucy Turner at 933-1830.



## RECOGNIZING THE POWER OF THE OUTDOORS

***The Presbyterian Ministries United Appeal of Birmingham (PMUAB) now also supports Living River's Power of the Outdoors Scholarship Fund. Donations on PMUAB Sunday, June 11 will help Living River, Kirkwood by the River's Life Care Fund and IPC Community Ministries' Social Services Fund.***

Canoe down the Cahaba River. Hike through the forest. See and touch plants and animals in their natural habitat. Explore coal mining and even retrace steps taken by Native Americans decades ago. These adventures await every young adventurer who arrives at the Cahaba Environmental Center (CES) at Living River. Now, Living River wants to ensure 500 low-income students get to walk outside the classroom and experience the joy of learning through hands on exploration. It's the Power of the Outdoors.



Living River is now a beneficiary of the Presbyterian Ministries United Appeal of Birmingham along with IPC and Kirkwood by the River. Money given to Living River from **PMUAB Sunday on June 11** will be used for the Power of the Outdoors scholarship fund. This fund will help provide three day visits for low-income school groups in Jefferson, Tuscaloosa, Bibb and Shelby Counties.

The CES is located on the Cahaba River in Bibb and Shelby Counties. It gives students the chance to learn about water, forest, life and geology of the Cahaba River watershed during their stay. They can also explore the cultural history of the Cahaba River watershed from Native American to early European settlements

to coal mining and modern resource management.

But the learning adventure doesn't start or end with the trip to the center. The CES staff visits the school before and after the trip. There's also a service-learning project to cap off the experience.

All of these experiences are shown to significantly impact academic achievement, as well as foster leadership and civic engagements. Consider making a special donation on PMUAB Sunday. Your gift will help the Power of the Outdoors send 500 students to CES this upcoming school year. It will also benefit the Community Ministries' Social Services Fund and the Kirkwood Life Care Fund.



## KIRKWOOD BY THE RIVER LIFE CARE FUND



Kirkwood by the River was founded in 1980 by IPC as a nonprofit retirement community offering Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing and Medicare Rehabilitation to senior adults in Birmingham. The continuum of care allows residents to progress through life receiving the most appropriate care without having to relocate.

But what would happen if a resident could no longer afford the services they needed? In other communities, a resident may then be asked to leave. But because of your support of PMUAB, Kirkwood is an exception. Contributions to The Kirkwood Life Care Fund ensures no resident is asked to leave because they have outlived their financial resources.

Your support of PMUAB over the past 10 years has allowed Kirkwood by the River to provide nearly half a million dollars in funding for healthcare services to senior residents in need. Together, we can ensure the Life Care Fund will stand strong in God's services. Together, we can continue to impact lives for years to come.

## IPC SOCIAL SERVICES FUND

Some of our STAIR families periodically need help keeping a roof over their heads, lights and water turned on or medical prescriptions filled. Staff and members in Community Ministries work to ensure the families of our tutored Hayes K-8 students stay together in a safe home. The Social Services Fund often provides a temporarily lifeline by paying utility, housing and prescription bills. It also starts conversations about budgeting. Your generous donations to PMUAB benefits the Social Services Fund, which keeps families safe and healthy.



# What's Happening

## Quick Look at Major Events

**June 4:** Summer Sunday School Starts

**June 5- 8:** VBS

**June 5- 9:** Bible Times Marketplace

**June 3- 10:** Mexico Mission Trip

## YOUTH CALENDAR

*See weekly "Youth Update" email for event details!*

**June 1- 2:** Graduated seniors Lake Martin trip

**June 5- 9:** Bible Times Market Place, CFAF

**June 7:** BTMP Tribal Assistant Party, 6- 8 pm

**June 14:** Youth Dinner at Urban Cookhouse (Crestline), 6- 7:15 pm

**June 14-16:** Middle School Night Owl Camp-Living River (Presbytery)

**June 21:** Picnic and Games-Overton Park, 6- 7:15 pm

**June 25-28:** DOOR Atlanta Mission Trip

**June 28:** 32 Degrees Ice Cream Party, 7- 8 pm

**July 9- 15:** Montreat Youth Conference

**July 12:** Jr. High Outdoor Game Night, 6-7:15 pm

**July 19:** Baron's Game, 6:30-10 pm

**July 23:** Montreat Sunday, 5 pm Worship

**July 24- 27:** Birmingham Mission Week, 9 am- 3:30 pm daily. Thursday is lake day 8:30 am-7 pm

### Questions?

Catherine Goudreau 790-1665; Gann Wright 919-3364

## Preschool/Elementary Event Calendar

*See weekly IPC Family eUpdate for event details!*

**June 4:** Summer Sunday school starts, 10- 10:50 am

Children entering 1st - 6th Grades in Room 111

Children age two through entering 5K in Room G-08

**June 5- 8:** Vacation Bible School (children who completed 3, 4, and 5-year-old classes)

**June 5- 9:** BTMP (children who completed 1st - 5th Grade)

**August 1- 3:** IPC Creative Kids Art & Music Camp, 9 am- 12 pm. *Limited spaces for rising 2nd- 6th graders. Register online.*

**August 3:** Family Baron's Night, Regions Field, 7 pm

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Labor Day Weekend Sunday School/ Childcare Schedule

8:45- 10:50 am: Infants through age 4 in the nursery. *No preschool, Atrium or elementary Sunday school classes.*

11 am - Nursery care for infants in nursery; Worship Care for ages 2-4 in Room G-08.

## WE ARE GOD'S HANDIWORK

Art & Music Camp for Rising 2nd-6th Graders

**August 1-3, 2017**

**9 am- 12 pm**

Register online



## IPC DAY SCHOOL MUSIC TEACHER RETIRES

After 20 years at the Day School, Jill Marlar retired at the end of May when her daughter Ruby graduated from the Four-Year-Olds. Jill began her career as a Three-Year-Old teacher, then moved to the Four-Year-Olds, and finished as the Music teacher. She has touched the lives of many children and teachers, and will be greatly missed. Jill will continue to teach her after school enrichment programs, ArtScope and Showstoppers. Dana Porter will take over as music teacher at the Day School.



*Pictured (l to r): Dana Porter, Jill and Ruby Marlar*

## DEPARTMENTS

The Rev. Dr. William J. Carl III, Senior Pastor, Head of Staff 933-1830

The Rev. Ms. Lucy Turner, Executive Associate Pastor & Director Stewardship 933-3729  
David Seamon, Director of Missional Engagement 933-3730  
Nancy Skinner, New Member Coordinator 933-3703

### Music & Fine Arts

Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director, Music and Fine Arts 933-3701  
Beth Middleton, Music Assistant 933-3675

### Discipleship (CE)

The Rev. Mrs. Elizabeth Goodrich, Associate Pastor, Director Discipleship (Christian Education) 933-3732  
Cindy Coulter, Director, Children's Ministries 933-3717

Mary Beasley, Assistant Director, Children's Ministries 933-3690  
Kay Roller, Director of Catechesis & Assistant Director Children's Ministries 933-3690

Margaret Cobbs Assistant Director Catechesis 907-3598

Catherine Goudreau, Director Youth Ministries 933-3734

Gann Wright, Assistant Director Youth Ministries 933-3708

### Congregational Ministries

The Rev. Brian Lays Associate Pastor; Director, Congregational Ministries 933-3706

Cindy Shaw, Member Ministries Coordinator 933-3696

### Counseling Associates

The Rev. Dr. Stewart Jackson 933-3698

Dr. Kenneth Wade 933-3695

### Witness

The Rev. Ms. Susan Clayton, Associate Pastor; Director, Community Ministries, 933-3709

Amy Montz, Director Children's Fresh Air Farm 822-0150

### Finance

Denise W Moore, Executive Director, IPC Foundation & Director, Finance, 933-3705

### Stewardship & Development

The Rev. Ms. Lucy Turner, Executive Associate Pastor & Director Stewardship 933-3729  
Honora Gathings, Communications Director 933-3716

### IPC Day School

Kathy Leaver, Director, Day School, 933-3687

### Administration

Bill McKelvey, Director, Operations & Administration 933-3704

### President of the Congregation

Jimmy Holloway 222-2567

### Vice-President of Congregation

David Turner 264-4174

The *Window* is a quarterly publication of Independent Presbyterian Church 3100 Highland Avenue S. The *Window* is published for church members and friends. Photographs by Paul Romjue, Virginia Jones., Matt Hunter and Bill McKelvey.

## MORE MAY EVENTS

### 4TH QUARTER LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesday, June 27 at 11:30 am

The **Lunch Bunch** will meet at **Bonefish Grill (3430 Galleria Cir, Hoover, 35244) June 27 at 11:30 am**. A bus leaves from IPC's parking lot at 10:45 am if you want a ride. Contact Connie Logan, 933-3694 or [clogan@ipc-usa.org](mailto:clogan@ipc-usa.org) to make reservations.



### SAVE THE DATE!

**IPC Presbyterian Women Summer Social** will be **Thursday, June 15** from **6- 8 pm** at the home of Beth Adams (2996 Park Brook Road 35213). Check the Sign Up page online to make reservations!

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

First & Third Tuesday, 12- 1 pm in Room G39



This new group is free and available to anyone dealing with grief related to any kind of loss. IPC deacon Jo Self, a licensed professional counselor and registered nurse with a PhD in counseling, is leading the group. Over the past nineteen years, she has

worked with individuals and groups at Bradford Health Services, Rape Response, Alabama Board of Nursing, and in private practice. She lost her husband David to a long term illness in 2016. For more information, contact the Rev. Brian Lays at [blays@ipc-usa.org](mailto:blays@ipc-usa.org) or 933-3706.

## Don't Take a Break from Summer Learning!

Summer classes are June 4- August 13

### ADULT CLASSES

#### Sundays, 10- 10:50 am

Samford University professor **Dr. Jeff Leonard** is leading another summer Christian Education class called **The Prophets: Voices Echoing across the Age** in Room 309. This is a study of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, and concentrates on the meaning of their messages for today's world.

**Thomas Spencer and Lee Walthall** will convene in Room 306 with **TED Talks: Faith Worth Sharing**. You'll watch and discuss a series of DVD talks from TED speakers including Pope Francis, Brene' Brown, Karen Armstrong and Bryan Stevenson on subjects ranging from religion and philanthropy to community and education.

#### Weekdays

**Rev. Margaret Northen's class** will study the **Gospel of Mark** on Wednesdays starting June 14 from 10:30- 11:45 am in Room 307.

The **Bill Shanks Friday Morning Bible Study** meets from 6:30-8 am in Room GH 2 for breakfast and discussion of the Bible.

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

It's a bird. It's a plane. No, it's Christian Ed at IPC!

#### Sundays, 10- 10:50 am

**Two-year-olds through rising 5K** will participate in read-aloud, interactive Bible stories on the Ground Floor.

**Rising 1st- 6th graders** will watch **The Van Dyke Show Bible Study film series** to learn about family in **June**. They'll continue watching that series and **The Superman Bible Study: The Revelation of Jesus Christ Super Hero** in **July and August**.

- June 4: "Never Name a Duck" on family (*1 Tim. 3:4*)
- June 11: "Give Me Your Walls" on home (*Matt. 7:24*)
- June 18: "Bank Book 6565696" on trust (*Luke 16:11*)
- June 25: "The Night the Roof Fell In" on fights (*Prov. 15:1*)
- July 9: "A Man's Teeth Are Not His Own" on loyalty (*1 Chronicles 29:18*)
- July 16: "Hustling the Hustler" on brotherly love (*Rom. 12:10*)
- July 23: "The Greatest Story Ever Retold" (*John 3:16*)
- July 30: "In the Beginning..." (*Galatians 4:4*)
- August 6: "The Star Child" (*Luke 2:12*)
- August 13: "A Messiah in the Making" (*Matt. 3:17*)

Find Christian Education online at [www.ipc-usa.org/learn](http://www.ipc-usa.org/learn)

## A HIKE THROUGH BIRMINGHAM HISTORY



With uniforms on, shoes laced and backpacks filled, IPC's Boy Scout Troop 28 began a 10-mile hike through downtown Birmingham on May 6. Scouts from across the city and even members of a Calera young men's church group visited places that shaped Birmingham's history as one of the nation's largest steel producers and sites where the struggle for civil rights caught America's attention. The stops showed the Magic City's transformation. They toured: IPC, Sloss Furnace, Morris Avenue, City Federal Building, Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Five Points South and Highland Avenue.

The Boy Scouts were working on their Hiking merit badge when they came up with the idea for this hike. Assistant Scoutmaster Steve Ray saw this as an opportunity to give the boys a better understanding of the city's history and an appreciation for Birmingham's role in the advancement of civil rights. Steve partnered with friends Rev. Calvin Meadows and Rev. Beverly Meadows of Present Truth Church and their young men's group to make the hike a reality.

"Partnering with Steve and his group has been a blessing. Our boys don't get many chances to do things out of doors," said Rev. Beverly Meadows of her group's participation.

Steve hopes the hike advanced the Boy Scouts' vision of teaching Scouts necessary skills to enable them to make lifelong moral and ethical decisions.



## SPEND SOME TIME ON THE FARM THIS SUMMER

*A note from Children's Fresh Air Farm  
Director Amy Montz*

The SLP at the CFAF will be held June 12-July 21. We are excited to have IPC youth come out for the first time to volunteer this summer. A big thanks to Lisa Burton for helping to kick-start that!

Kim Polson has graciously offered to head up our snack donation through the church so look for that sign-up list soon. The snacks fill their bellies and kick-start their brains for the afternoon.

There is always something to do at the farm...please give me a call at (205) 822-0150 or drop me an email to [amontz@ipc-usa.org](mailto:amontz@ipc-usa.org) to come out just to visit, to share your talents or even some elbow grease!

Hope to see you soon!

Amy Montz



## FOCUS ON 2016 IPC FOUNDATION GRANTS

### *A look at four recipients leaving a lasting impact on the world and its people*

For more than forty years, the IPC Foundation has helped further the church's mission of ministering to others. It's a beautiful story of love, kindness and support reaching out to all corners of the Earth. IPC Foundation board members, donors and volunteers have witnessed the Holy Spirit at work and have seen lives changed. The 2016 Annual Report tells that story now with more pictures in full color and narratives from the grant recipients who are using the grant money to transform lives.

This year, CURE International, Presbyterian Home for Children, The Open Door: A Ministry of IPC and UKirk Birmingham area featured. Here's a brief look:



In Afghanistan, the mortality rates for infants and mothers rates are among the highest in the world. **CURE International** is helping to "advance women's and children's health initiatives by providing high-level maternal and pediatric care and by training national physicians, nurses and other health care professionals to do the same."



Closer to home, the Presbyterian Home for Children offers a **Transition to Adult Living Program** for women ages 19- 24 who are homeless. "These ladies dream of rising above their past situations and leading lives without poverty, domestic violence and neglect."



**The Open Door** opened in September 2016. It has already "deepened the strategic priority of Community Ministries at IPC to focus much of our local mission on the neighborhoods of Kingston and North Avondale, the area of Birmingham where the children of the IPC STAIR site and the Children's Fresh Air Farm Summer Learning Program live with their families." The ministry offers free GED, ESL and basic literacy through a partnership with the Literacy Council of Central Alabama and Jefferson State Community College. Childcare is also offered for the participants.



**UKirk Birmingham** is a ministry for college students to help them stay connected with their Presbyterian faith, as well as to provide worship and fellowship opportunities. "UKirk Birmingham not only exists to serve students and other young adults in the city, but is poised to grow into a strong, dynamic, and sustainable ministry!"

Read more about these ministries, learn more about the IPC Foundation and how grants are awarded by viewing the 2016 Annual Report at [www.ipc-usa.org/give/annual-reports](http://www.ipc-usa.org/give/annual-reports). Questions? Contact IPC Foundation executive director Denise Moore at [dmoore@ipc-usa.org](mailto:dmoore@ipc-usa.org) or (205) 933-3705, or director of Stewardship & Development Rev. Lucy Turner at [ltturner@ipc-usa.org](mailto:ltturner@ipc-usa.org) or (205) 933-3729.



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### COST INCREASE FOR HIGHLAND HALL PROJECT

*Additional \$147,058\* Needed to Help Our Church Grow*

**W**e're making more room for our growing church family and ministries! You've probably noticed the work underway at Highland Hall. We're incredibly excited about renovations and additions to the place where many people gather every week for fun, fellowship and worship.

But we need your help. Estimates based on the final construction drawings raised the project's estimated cost by \$107,763; the new total is \$1,138,668. As of May 22, we were \$506,742\* toward the goal. We still need \$147,058.\*

Many of you have made generous contributions to the Highland Hall Campaign. Thank you! If you haven't, please prayerfully consider making a pledge and think about how these changes will enable you and your family to grow spiritually in the years and decades to come. *\*Figures as of May 22*