



TIME FOR RECESS

The most fulfilling and fun opportunity to be the hands of Christ could be awaiting you at Independent Presbyterian Church.

“Remember when you couldn’t wait for recess period? You loved it! You will also love our Recess. It will ooze with love, joy, fun, games, sports, art, music and best of all, happiness and fellowship,” says IPC member Lynne Simmons.

Lynne began volunteering with a similar program for people with memory loss and their caregivers at another Birmingham area church 15 months ago.

“It’s been the most rewarding, happy, fun, uplifting and interesting volunteer job I have had,” she says, urging IPC members to take a break and join Recess Respite Program.

This isn’t your typical recess. Trained staff and volunteers will lead activities and eat lunch with participants living with mild to moderate memory loss on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Highland Hall from



RECESS MODELED AFTER FIRST UMC (MONTGOMERY) RESPITE MINISTRY PHOTO: FIRST UMC MONTGOMERY

10 am - 2 pm. It will be a healthy dose of fun with exercise, music, crafts, games, service projects and a daily devotional.

“We’re going to laugh a lot,” says

Recess director Pat Flowers who hopes to incorporate her theatre background and knowledge gained by serving as the director of development at Episcopal

CONTINUED ON PG 3

FEATURING

IPC Helps Create City's First Community Garden **PG 4**

FEATURING

CFAF Growing Readers, Self-Esteem **PG 7**

LEARN

PMUAB gifts helping families in times of crisis **PG 5**

MISSION

Ways to be hands and feet of Christ this summer **PG 6**

UPCOMING events

See complete calendar online
including details and updates:
ipc-usa.org > [connect](#) > [calendar](#)

APRIL

- 1 Sun** Happy Easter!
Services at 8/9:30/11 am & 5 pm.
No Sunday School ❖
- 2 Mon** VBS/BTMP Public Registration ❖
- 8 Sun** Second Sunday Supper, 6 pm ❖
- 14 Sat** Choir Golf Tournament, 8 am,
Highland Park Golf Course ❖
- 22 Sun** Special Children's Led Program,
10 am, Great Hall ❖
Youth Sunday/Senior Recognition,
11 am worship.
Senior Lunch, 12:30 pm, Rojo. No
Youth Evening Activities ❖
Requiem Concert, 4 pm ❖
- 24 Tue** Lunch & Learn, 11:30 am, GH ❖

MAY

- 4 Fri** VBS/BTMP Registration Closes ❖
- 6 Sun** Youth Service Day, 12- 4 pm,
CFAF ❖❖
- 13 Sun** Happy Mother's Day!
CFAF Appeal/Acolyte Installation,
11 am worship ❖❖❖
Second Sunday Supper, 6 pm ❖
- 20 Sun** Children's Pentecost Celebration,
10 am, Atrium ❖
- 22 Tue** 4th Quarter & Friends, Cahaba
Lily Field Trip, 9 am- 3 pm ❖
- 26-9 Sa-Sa** Mwandi Mission Trip ❖
- 27 Sun** Memorial Day Holiday. Combined
Children Sunday School/No Youth
Small Groups ❖

JUNE

- 2-10 Sa- Su** Chiapus Mexico Mission Trip ❖
- 4-7 M-Th** VBS, 9 am- 12 pm, IPC ❖
- 4-8 M-F** BTMP, 8 am- 2:30 pm, CFAF ❖
- 10 Sun** PMUAB Sunday, 11 am ❖❖
Second Sunday Supper, 6 pm ❖
- 19 Tue** 4th Quarter Lake Trip ❖
- 24-29 Su-Th** Mobile Urban Mission Trip ❖❖

- ❖ Major Events
- ❖ Children/Youth
- ❖ Adults/Seniors
- ❖ Learning/Education
- ❖ Service Opportunity
- ❖ Music Ministry

CONSIDER THIS

Resolve to Use Your Talents in Service



Christ is risen! Let us celebrate this gift given to us and the rebirth of hope by continuing to carry out his ministry within our church, our community and our world. This spring, we are embarking on new journeys with new programs, like Recess Respite Program and the Highland Park Community Garden, to extend Independent Presbyterian Church's mission of "Loving Our Neighbor, Welcoming God in the World." Recess will offer volunteers and participants with mild to moderate memory loss two days of fun and fellowship filled

with devotionals, games and service opportunities. Their caregivers will get a much needed break. The Highland Park Community Garden is a partnership between the church, city and neighborhood association to start the city's first community garden next door at Rushton Park. There will be ample opportunities for you to become involved in both ministries that are listed throughout this *Window*.

The Window itself has gone through its own rebirth with a new look, layout and frequency. This periodical will now be published on a quarterly basis with a new focus on personal stories about the impact our ministries are making in the world, the faces behind the ministries and how you are the force behind this work. To help you stay up to date on the latest events, we're bringing back *The Update*. This monthly calendar should have arrived in your mailbox. Open it up and post it on your fridge to make sure you don't miss out on church events. The Communications Team spent months working on these publications with the goal of keeping you better informed. We hope you will take a minute to sit back, read about all of the wonderful ministries here at IPC and be inspired to get involved.

All the Best,

Bill

William J. Carl III
Senior Pastor



NEIGHBOR TORRIE MCDONALD (PICTURED) TALKS ABOUT IPC'S PARTNERSHIP TO CREATE CITY'S FIRST COMMUNITY GARDEN ON PG 4 PHOTO: CHRIS WHITE

Place into the program. “Every person who comes to Recess will feel valued.”

That’s what makes Recess and similar memory care programs like it unique. Participants will work alongside the volunteers, unaware that they aren’t the volunteers themselves. It’s more than an opportunity for fellowship. It’s also a reminder to the participants that they are still vital to their church, family and community. The program also helps their caregivers who will be able to run errands, rest, and even make new friends at the monthly support group.

Yet, when Pat visits similar programs, all she sees is Christ’s call to serve and love others fulfilled.

“Those rooms were filled with love and joy,” she says.

“The key to success will be the volunteers. It’s up to you, IPC members. Step up to the plate. It will be the best day of every week,” says Lynne.

GET INVOLVED

The program starts May 1. Volunteer opportunities include:

- Help preparing for the program launch
- Set-up on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30- 9:30 am
- Clean-up Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2- 3pm
- Serve as a companion to participants during program Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 am- 2 pm
- Assist with lunch service Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 am-1pm
- Play keyboard for sing-alongs (*flexible*)
- Perform for program—music, drama, dance, drumming, storytelling (*flexible*)
- Conduct art or craft class for program—easy paint or craft project (*flexible*)
- Organize and maintain activity supplies Monday and Wednesday from 1- 5 pm
- Assist with administrative duties Monday- Thursday (*flexible*)

There is a special volunteer training/information session Tuesday, April 17 from 9 am- 12 pm. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering or know a possible participant, please contact Pat Flowers at 205-933-3723 or pflowers@ipc-usa.org.

welcome

TO IPC



Peyton Chandler
New Member



Sam Davis
New Member



Mary Riley Deer
New Member



Robert Donovan
New Member



Audrey Douglas
New Member



Tyler Douglas
New Member



Christian Gaiser
New Member



Anthony Keaveny
New Member



Polly Peterson
New Member



Jessica Wehby
New Member



Pat Flowers
New Staff
Director of Recess

The Window is a quarterly publication of Independent Presbyterian Church 3100 Highland Avenue South. The Window is published for church members and friends.

PLANTING FELLOWSHIP, COMMUNITY

BY TORRIE MCDONALD

It's 7:30 am, and I've just gotten my coffee and sat down to my crossword at O'Henry's Coffee in Highland Park. A tall, 30-something-year-old man walks in and looks over my shoulder, offering me an answer that I jot down on the side. "I can't believe you still do it in pen" he laughs, as he orders his latte from the curly-haired barista behind the counter. The barista already has it prepared for him. He sits with two more regulars by the window overlooking the park; the cherry blossoms are budding, and spring seems close. I listen as they chat about classes, work, and politics. Another short-haired girl joins them, and the table bursts into laughter. I wave as my neighbor walking his greyhound passes the window. It's Monday, but really, it could be any day. It's the same every morning. We gather. We share. We disperse. One of the unspoken rituals of a neighborhood that loves itself.

When I was approached by David Seamon to help Independent Presbyterian Church launch the Highland Park Community Gardens, I was thrilled. I couldn't think of a more natural extension of our neighborhood's innate sense of community than a community garden. Beyond that, though, there's a real need for land in Highland Park. We live in the most densely populated neighborhood in the state. Moreover, many of our residents live in apartment rentals with few to no private outdoor areas. Our city parks mean a lot to us. That we can transform an unused bit of space in one of our parks into a beautiful, productive public project is exciting. That it will also be the very first community garden in a Birmingham city park is an honor. For our neighborhood, this garden means greater fellowship, stronger community ties, and, of course, more amazing food. It is a place for us to not only gather but work together to produce something of value for others.



ARCHITECTURE WORKS HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN NO-FENCE SCHEME 08/07/18 Sheet 05/

RENDERINGS OF THE HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN IN RUSHTON PARK COMING SUMMER 2018



NEIGHBORS GATHER FOR COFFEE, CONVERSATION PHOTO: CHRIS WHITE

We hope it will also be a place to inspire. That the unique sense of community in Highland Park will bear a community garden that ignites repetition city parks throughout town. That a thriving community garden in a city park will be commonplace. That neighborhoods that gather, work together, and grow will become an unspoken ritual of a city that loves itself.

ABOUT THE GARDEN
ArchitectureWorks designed the garden space. Twenty-four plots will be



THE RUSH IN 2016 AT GARDEN SITE TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PROJECT PHOTO: VIRGINIA JONES

available for \$40 per season. To learn more or to get involved, contact Torrie at rushtongardens@gmail.com.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Torrie McDonald lives in Highland Park. She's a member of the Highland Park Community Garden Park Steering Committee. She's also a master gardener.



THE BLEACHED UNIFORMS. LEARN HOW PMUAB GIFTS HELP THE FUND, KIRKWOOD BY THE RIVER, AND LIVING RIVER JUNE 10 AT 11 AM WORSHIP

PMUAB SUNDAY

Financial Assistance in Times of Crisis

BY REV. SUSAN CLAYTON, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

The money you give to PMUAB helps support the IPC Social Service Fund, which offers financial assistance primarily to our STAIR, CFAF and Open Door families in times of crisis. In 2017, a pre-cancerous health condition led a single mother of two of our STAIR and Summer Learning Program children to be confined to bed. She lost her job. But the Social Service Fund kept this mother and her children housed. In an attempt to help, her rising 2nd and 3rd grade sons tried to launder their school uniforms. Instead of laundry detergent, they used Clorox. The fund was also able to purchase new uniforms so they could start school with suitable clothes. The mother has since recovered and returned to work. Your gifts to PMUAB help families in similar situations make it through a crisis until their lives stabilize once again. Thank you for your generosity!

BRIEFS

Summer Christian Education Offerings

Don't take a break from learning this summer! Popular programs return to IPC.

IPC member Virginia Jones leads another photo talk on June 3.

IPC members Tom Spencer and Lee Walthall are coordinating TED Talks 2: More Faith Worth Sharing beginning June 10.

Samford University professor Dr. Jeff Leonard is teaching "Stepping Back: Considering the World that Produced the New Testament" June 17-August 12.

Other classes return June 17. For a list go to: ipc-usa.org > learn.

Follow Moses into Promised Land or Take the Ride of a Lifetime

Registration is underway until May 4 for Vacation Bible School and Bibletimes Marketplace.

Campers (completed Grades 1-5) and Tribal Assistants (completed Grades 6-12) will follow Moses and the Israelites out of slavery into the Promised Land. They'll be apprentices in the marketplace learning crafts while also swimming, worshipping, acting and playing games at the Children's Fresh Air Farm June 4-8 from 8 am- 2:30 pm.

Children (completed 3K- K) will ride down the VBS: Rolling River Rampage with God learning Jesus is with us even in rough rapids. Vacation Bible School takes place at IPC June 4-7 from 9 am- 12 pm.

Register online at:
ipc-usa.org > **connect** > **links**

SAVE THE
dates

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| July 4 | Independence Day! Offices Closed |
| July 8-14 | Montreat Youth Conference |
| August 12 | Summer Christian Education Term Ends |
| August 19 | Fall Christian Education Open House |
| September 7- 8 | Church Officer Training |
| September 10 | IPC member Linda Nelson leads talk on IPC Founding Pastor Dr. Henry M. Edmonds |
| November 27 | Church Officer Examination |

FINANCES

Snapshot of 2018 IPC Budget

The IPC Finance Ministry Team is pleased to report the 2018 Budget is approved and can be found at <http://ipc-usa.org/give/annual-reports.html>. A snapshot of IPC's giving and spending by ministry team is shown below:

2018 RECEIPTS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Pledges | \$3,275,300 | 64.8% |
| Endowments/ Designated Gifts | \$448,360 | 8.9% |
| CFAF | \$347,590 | 6.9% |
| Day School | \$733,000 | 14.5% |
| Other | \$250,990 | 5.0% |
| Total Revenue~ | \$5,055,240 | 100.0% |

2018 PROGRAM EXPENSES

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Witness | \$845,830 | 16.7% |
| Christian Ed | \$635,420 | 12.6% |
| Music/Worship | \$860,590 | 17.0% |
| Congregational Ministries | \$292,210 | 5.8% |
| Communication/ Stewardship | \$244,250 | 4.8% |
| Day School | \$733,000 | 14.5% |
| Shared Services | \$1,443,940 | 28.6% |
| Total Expenses~ | \$5,055,240 | 100.0% |

Revenue over expenses: \$0



PHOTO: MATT HUNTER



2017 SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM TUTOR MARY STEWART BEASLEY TAKING A BREAK AND LAUGHING WITH STUDENTS

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Simple Ways to Serve This Summer

IPC global mission teams will soon be leaving for Mexico and Zambia. But you don't need a passport or to travel far from your home to assist our ministries and to make a difference in someone's life.

- Tutor at The Children's Fresh Air Farm June 11- July 19 from 9 am- 12 pm. Contact: Catherine Goudreau, cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org
- Provide healthy snacks for campers at the The Children's Fresh Air Farm June 11- July 20. Contact: Catherine Goudreau, cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org
- Help with the Summer Cookout at The Children's Fresh Air Farm on July 6. Contact: Catherine Goudreau, cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org
- Be a worship care volunteer by watching children ages 2-5 during 11 am worship on Sundays. Contact: Stacy Pulliam, spulliam@ipc-usa.org or 933-3690
- Assist with Bibletimes crafts at The Children's Fresh Air Farm June 4- 8. Prework also available. Contact: Stacy Pulliam, spulliam@ipc-usa.org or 933-3690
- Serve as Bibletimes kitchen volunteer June 4-8. Prework also available. Contact: Stacy Pulliam, spulliam@ipc-usa.org or 933-3690
- Organize CE closet, bulletin board and classrooms. Contact: Stacy Pulliam, spulliam@ipc-usa.org or 933-3690
- Label and organize STAIR books. Contact: Evelyn Puckett, epuckett@ipc-usa.org or 933-3684

SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM

BY CATHERINE GOUDREAU, DIRECTOR OF THE CHILDREN'S FRESH AIR FARM

Summer brings sunshine, swimming, and a sense of self-determination for campers, like eight-year-old San'tuan, at The Children's Fresh Air Farm (CFAF).

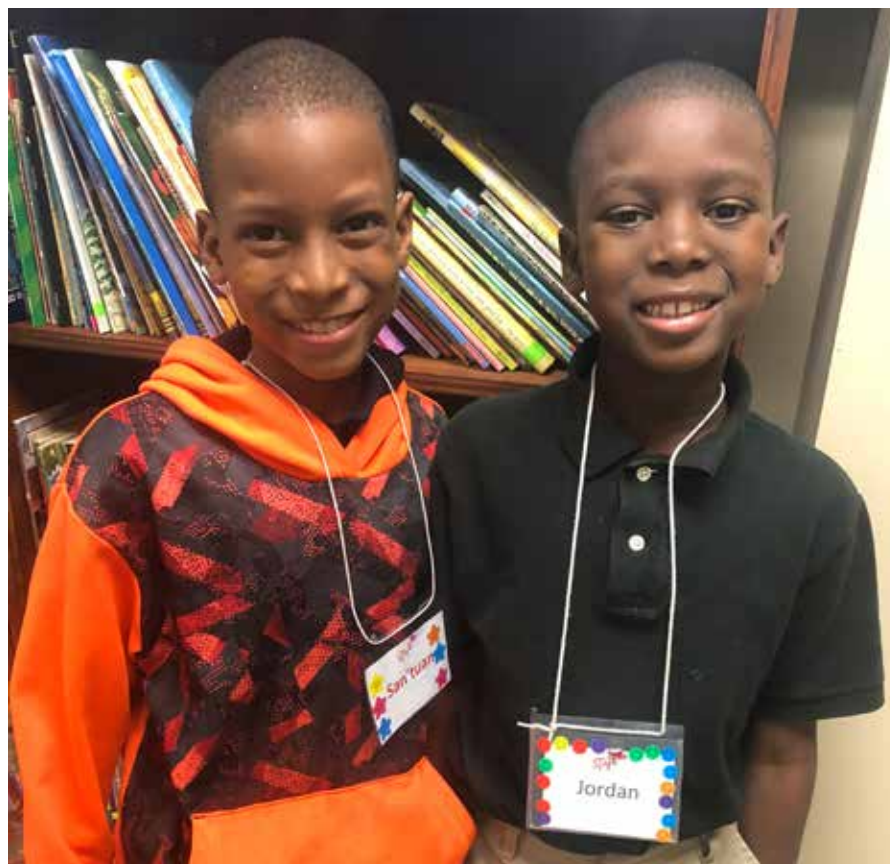
"He is excited to get up and go to camp every morning!" says AnJessica of her oldest son's experience last summer at CFAF.

Now a third grader, San'tuan is back at IPC for a second year as a STAIR student with his brother, Jordan. Both boys are already looking forward to a summer of learning at CFAF this year.

The six-week Summer Learning Program (SLP) became the primary ministry of CFAF in 2010 serving third, fourth, and fifth graders from Birmingham's Hayes K-8. The 80 children receive daily lessons from certified teachers and enrichment activities, including Chapel, swimming, gardening, music, science, and art. On Fridays, the students take educational field trips. For many children, it's their first time to experience some of these activities.

"San'tuan learned to swim and different methods of music. He slowed down on video games and wanted to be outside," says AnJessica. "I remember him talking about all the books he was reading. This program really helped San'tuan learn and grow more."

The program addresses other



BROTHERS SAN'TUAN AND JORDAN AT IPC TO IMPROVE READING SKILLS WITH STAIR TUTORS. LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP OTHER STUDENTS ON SUNDAY, MAY 13.

challenges, including nutritional deficiencies and low self-esteem.

"San'tuan is able to do something where he is safe, can be himself, and can interact with other people. I love it," says his mom.

Thank you for making the mission of the CFAF possible. **To learn more, contact Catherine Goudreau at cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org. Also, make plans to attend 11 am worship on May 13 for the CFAF Appeal.**

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



Become SLP Tutor
June 11- July 19, 2018



Join CFAF Garden Group
April 21, 2018



INDEPENDENT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

3100 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, AL 35205

WINDOW (USPS255-220)
Published Quarterly
Office of Publication
Independent Presbyterian Church
3100 Highland Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35205-1408
Periodical Postage Paid at
Birmingham, Alabama
POSTMASTER: Send address
change to the WINDOW,
3100 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, AL 35205-1408

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CHOIR GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018 AT 8 AM
HIGHLAND PARK GOLF COURSE

SUPPORT CHOIR'S MISSION AND OUTREACH

Entry Fees for Four-Person Scramble

Cost: \$165 per golfer/\$660 per team
Limit of 120 Golfers

Prizes

\$400 for First Place Foursome
\$200 for Second Place Foursome
\$100 for Third Place Foursome

Awards

Longest Drive
Closest Pin on Select Holes

Sponsorships

Non-golfers are can also participate by sponsoring a hole in honor of or memory of a loved one or choir member for \$50. Golfers can also be sponsored for \$165 and carts for \$25

Registration forms available at IPC
receptionist desk or online at
ipc-usa.org > connect > calendar

