



# Towerbell

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH    NOVEMBER 2019

## From PC(USA) Office of Theology & Worship ...

*While Thanksgiving is a national holiday, the tradition of giving thanks at the end of the harvest is a religious event celebrated in most cultures. The national practice of giving thanks in November is therefore quite biblical. Scripture abounds with thanksgiving to God, for thanksgiving is part of the Christian way of life, no matter what the circumstances.*

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
and to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your loving-kindness in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night...

For you, O Lord, have made me glad  
by what you have done.

I will sing for joy at the work of your hands.

How great are your works, O Lord!

-Psalm 92:1, 4-5

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the people;  
and I will sing praises to you among the nations,  
for your loving-kindness is great above the heavens;  
and your truth reaches to the skies.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens,  
and let your glory be over all the earth.

-Psalm 108:3-5

## Calendar

- **Nov 2**—Presbyterian Women gathering
- **Nov 3**—Church School & Worship with Communion  
**(ALL SAINTS SUNDAY)**
- **Nov 6**—Knit Wits, Evening Bible Study
- **Nov 7**—Morning Glories
- **Nov 10**—Church School & Worship **(STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY)**; Deacons meeting
- **Nov 11**—Evening Circle
- **Nov 11**—Investment Sub-C'ee meeting; Property & Finance C'ee meeting **(CHANGE)**
- **Nov 13**—Evening Bible Study; CE Team meeting; PNC meeting
- **Nov 17**—Church School & Worship; Session meeting
- **Nov 20**—Knit Wits, Evening Bible Study
- **Nov 21**—PW Board & general meeting and Tea
- **Nov 22**—Bethany Presbyterian Church meal
- **Nov 24**—Church School & Worship with Communion  
**(IN-GATHERING) (CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY)**
- **Nov 25**—Mission C'ee meeting; Presbytery meeting @ Korean Central
- **Nov 28**—**THANKSGIVING DAY (office closed)**
- **Nov 30**—"Hanging of the Greens"

## Worship Activities

Rev. Hudson's upcoming sermon titles and scripture selections are provided below:

- 11/3 *Zacchaeus*  
Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144;  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10  
Liturgist: Jacqueline Hudson
- 11/10 *The Silver is Mine, and the Gold is Mine, says the LORD of Hosts*  
Haggai 1:15b-2:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38  
Liturgist: Wendy Lavey
- 11/17 *Hope!*  
Isaiah 65:17-25; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19  
Liturgist: Beverly Rospierski
- 11/24 *The Tender Mercy of God*  
Jeremiah 23:1-6; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43  
Liturgist: Paula Trill
- 12/1 *Put On the Lord Jesus Christ*  
Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

We will receive pledges for 2020 on **Stewardship Sunday**, November 10.

There are two special dates on the liturgical calendar in November as we conclude the "Time After Pentecost" and enter the "Christmas Cycle." **All Saints Sunday** is on Nov. 3, when we remember those who entered the Church eternal this past year. We remember especially *Jean Mulkerin, Emmeline Addison, Edward Spence, William Beattie and Gina Embrescia*. **Christ the King Sunday** is on Nov. 24, marking the end of the Christian calendar and a time to give thanks and praise for Christ the King. Communion will be served on 11/24.

Nov. 24 is also the Sunday before Thanksgiving and, as is our tradition at IPC, is designated as **Harvest In-Gathering** Sunday. See Deacon's Corner for more information.

The **First Sunday of Advent** is on Dec. 1. The annual "**Hanging of the Greens**" will be on Saturday, November 30. Please come help decorate the sanctuary, and possibly the chapel, for the Christmas season.

## Deacon's Corner

Well, it's been a quiet month in Lake Wobegon ... **but not here at IPC!**

Deacons got a break from coffee hour on the first Sunday of October when the men prepared, cooked, and served up a wonderful pancake breakfast! They even decorated the tables!! Nice work gentlemen – John Bair, Mike Kolchin, Butch Carr, Terry Trill, Dean Jermann, Larry Mamere, Ryan McGovern and Bill Smith.

Our monthly birthday cake celebration took place on the second Sunday of October, with a **beautiful cake provided by the Messengers**.

The Deacons then turned their attention to our annual **Scottish Heritage Celebration on October 27<sup>th</sup>**. We bid a fond farewell to our little pink & brown-feathered duckies in the Gathering Room and changed the theme with a nod to dear Scotland. The Deacons (and some wonderful friends of the Deacons) did an outstanding job of preparing Scottish treats for coffee hour! We hope you enjoyed the scones, shortbread (Marge Johnson's and Meta Beattie's recipes), sausage rolls, tartlets, empire biscuits, oatmeal, white cheese, and yes, a **bowl of baked beans over toast points!!** Come enjoy leftovers on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>! Our Scottish members donned their tartans and we reminisced over friends and times gone by.

Deacons are now looking forward to November and **Harvest In-Gathering**. We thank you for the generous donations received thus far (donation deadline is Nov. 10) and we have a team looking into where we can deliver our fresh produce. It looks like Bethany Church will be one of our prime candidates as they have 20 families in need of assistance with their Thanksgiving meals.

As an aside, we Deacons want to thank you all for the "free will donations" received at coffee hour. These funds help us to provide things like juice boxes for the children, cream, sugar, tea, lemonade, coffee filters, and paper products when necessary, minimizing the funds we need from the church's operating budget. All decorations and goodies for the Gathering Room **are provided by the Deacons themselves**.

For updates on what's happening in our Congregation, see Deacon's Corner – PART TWO on the next page!

~ Nancy Jermann

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING SERVICE ON DECEMBER 1 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE 2020 OPERATING BUDGET.**

## News from the Outreach Team

Thank you IPC members and friends who participated in getting their picture taken and their contact information updated for the new Directory, which we hope will be available before Christmas.

If you ordered portraits (in addition to the free 8 x 10), you should have received them by now, delivered to your home address. If you haven't, check with the IPC office to see if your packet was delivered there instead. The free 8 x 10s for those who did not order other portraits seem to be coming in several waves to the IPC office and will be available to be picked up at worship or during normal office hours: Monday - Thursday 9-1 p.m.

It really does take a village for a campaign to be successful – drum roll in the background – and Outreach heartily thanks the crew under Rev'd. Bill's direction who moved the tables, benches, etc. around in the sanctuary where the pictures were taken. The reverse had to be done after the picture taking days were over. There was also a great group of hosts and hostesses to make sure the process went smoothly for the two day event -- Jan Adams, Barb Csuti, Karen Embrescia, Barbara Flood, Nina Kazarovich, Mike and Debbie Messenger, Sue Saunders, Connie Smith and Rev'd. Bill! Of course nothing would have gone right without the expert and speedy help of our church secretary, Paula Trill!! The Outreach Committee salutes you all (and there probably are others who I missed).

The Outreach team currently includes Barb Csuti, Karen Embrescia, Mike Messenger, and Karen Shallcross. There is plenty of room for YOUR ideas and help on this team! Contact one of us if you would like to work with us on the next season of life at IPC.

- Karen Shallcross

## Independence Historic Homes Tour

The Independence Historical Society is once again planning a Historic Homes Tour during the holiday season, currently scheduled for DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>, 1pm-4pm. IPC has again agreed to serve as the host location for registration and a place for refreshments and restroom breaks for those participating in the Tour. Look for more information – including the need for volunteers – as the Society firms up its plans.

## Deacons' Corner – PART TWO

**Visitations:** Our Rev. Hudson and Jan Adams made another visit to see Martha Alexander this month, and he and Nancy Jermann visited with Meta Beattie on Oct. 30. As you know, Meta lost her beloved husband, Bill, on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Our hearts and prayers are with Meta and Karen Embrescia and her family.

**On the mend:** Nancy's husband, Ray, had two eye cataract surgeries during the month of October; Karen Shallcross is recovering from hip surgery; and Paula Trill's husband, Terry, spent a night in Hospital, but he's fine as can be and probably gearing up for Santa time! We just heard that Barb Csuti fell and dislocated her elbow (ouch!) and is recouping at her son's home. We miss you Barb! Betty Walter is at The Oaks for rehabilitation following a stroke.

The **best news** this month came on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, when Laura and Erik Butler welcomed a new addition to the family! Little Jace Butler now joins brothers RJ and Brody---we can't wait to see all three up front and center for Young Disciples Time!!!

Please, everyone in our Deacon Care Plans, stay well, and if you haven't gotten your flu shot (stronger dose for seniors), get to Walgreens or Acme **pronto!** We are looking forward to seeing you all in November!!!

~ Nancy Jermann

## Christian Education

A Sunday School teacher's year goes from September through May. Our Sunday School teachers for the Fall 2019 through Spring 2020 are, in alphabetical order, Pat Clark, Donna Edwards, Nancy Jermann, Ryan Smith, Joe Stern, and Rebecca Tenbrook. Our curriculum for the Fall is about the first book of the Bible, *Genesis*, from the creation story to the beginning of Israel. For Advent, Sunday School curriculum will turn to the beginning of the life of Jesus, followed by events in Jesus' ministry. After Easter, the Sunday School will finish our season with several lessons on the life of Moses.

Adult/Teen Sunday School meets every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel with Rev. Hudson. We continue to study "A History of Christianity" by Diarmaid MacCallough, which studies the various branches of Christianity as it spreads throughout the world.

~ Joe Stern



## Do you know?

Tartan is a woven material, generally of wool, having stripes of different colors and varying in breadth. The arrangement of colors is alike in length and width and when woven, has the appearance of being a number of squares intersected by stripes which cross each other; this is called a 'sett'.

One of the earliest examples of tartan found in Scotland dates back to the 3rd century AD, where a small sample of woolen check known as the Falkirk tartan (now in the National Museum of Scotland) was found used as a stopper in an earthenware pot to protect a treasure trove of silver coins buried close to the Antonine Wall near Falkirk, a large town in the Central Lowlands of Scotland. It is a simple two-colored check or tartan which was identified as the undyed brown and white wool of the native Soay (a type of feral) Sheep. Colors in tartans were also determined by local plants that could be used for dyes.

<http://www.scotshistoryonline.co.uk/tartan-history.html>



“Several variations of one tartan may be worn and these tend to take their name from the purpose for which they were intended.

**Clan Tartans** - for general use by the clans people.

**Dress Tartans** - originally worn by the women of the clan, generally with a white background and lighter-colored patterns.

**Mourning Tartans** - generally of black and white.

**Hunting Tartans** - dark in color and worn for sport, especially suitable when a clan possessed a brightly colored tartan, making it unsuitable for hunting.

**Chiefs' Tartans** - for the personal use of the chief and his immediate family.

A word of warning however, the *Royal tartan* is for the exclusive use of the royal family and woe betide anyone who dares to break with this tradition!”

<https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofScotland/The-History-of-Tartan/>



- Janis Carr

## Presbyterian Women Tidbits

**Good news!** The PW jewelry sale at the 2019 Semi-Annual Community Garage Sale at the Independence Fieldhouse October 5<sup>th</sup> was a great success. In our four hours, two PW volunteers sold \$159.75 worth of donated jewelry. Our table was one of the busiest there. Due to your donations, we have increased our PW mission treasure chest. Thank you!

### An Invitation to IPC Women ...

On Thursday, November 21, at 1 p.m. in the Gathering Room you are invited to attend a combined PW Board and General meeting **and Tea**. We would like you to be there to participate in our end-of-year business decisions (especially where our mission money is sent) while you enjoy the company of your friends over delicious refreshments. Thank you in advance for being an active part of the Presbyterian Women of IPC!



~ Janis Carr

### Mission in Motion

Thank you for the coats that were donated – they were gratefully received by Love INC and will help keep some people in Cuyahoga County warm this year. Thanks also for your ongoing generosity and please look for a new mission activities tri-fold to be in your pews soon. Our next meeting is on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at IPC, so please come and share some energy and ideas for 2020. Keep up the good work and enjoy a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving with your loved ones.

~ Lee McGovern

### Fall Clean Up Day

On Saturday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, a group of energetic faithful gathered from 8:00am until after noon to dust, wash and wipe clean IPC. Windows were washed, pews dusted, light bulbs replaced, refrigerators cleaned and the upstairs kitchen organized. Waste baskets were cleaned during the week. Outside ... trimming, weeding and flower gardens were attended to. Refreshments and conversation helped the usual workers and a few new faces accomplish much in a short period of time. Thanks to all who gave their time and effort to keep up our facilities. For all others, please consider participating when we next spruce up our “home” before Easter.

~ Property & Finance

## SPOTLIGHT ON ...

# JAN ADAMS



Jan Adams grew up in Parma and came to us from Parma South Presbyterian in the 1980s when she moved to Independence. She met her husband Ed at Kent State in a required education course called "Kiddie Games." Jan's major was Early Childhood Education, and she taught the early primary grades for 38 years in North Olmsted. The first grade was her favorite.

After marrying Ed in 1972 at Parma South, they moved into their first house in Bay Village. They have two children who were raised in Independence, Michael and Michelle. Since transferring to IPC, Jan has been both an elder (6 years) and a deacon (6 years) while being on innumerable committees. She served as Deacon Moderator most of her years on that board and also taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. She continues to enjoy serving communion in worship and to the shut-ins on visits.

Jan has many hobbies and skills including flower arranging, photography, scrapbooking, sewing, going to garage sales, gardening, crafting and attending craft fairs. IPC has been the grateful recipient from a lot of her activities. She is already working on the flower arrangements for Michelle's wedding this coming year. Son Michael lives in California and is expecting his second child soon. Jan has been able to take several extended trips to get acquainted with grandson Andrew.

Jan is also a collector of cookbooks and Christmas items including Snow Babies, Victorian Villages, and nutcrackers! She always has a smile on her face and is ready to help out!!

## Pastor's November Stewardship Message

**"There are three kinds of giving,  
Grudge Giving, Duty Giving & Thanksgiving."**

~ Robert Rodenmayer, *Thanks Be to God*

**Grudge** giving says, "I hate to." **Duty** giving says, "I ought to." **Thanksgiving** says, "I want to!"

It is once again time for each of us to renew our financial commitment to Independence Presbyterian Church for the year 2020. We will receive pledges on **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** during worship.

This year, let us each make an earnest effort to increase our pledge, not grudgingly, nor out of any sense of obligation, but with a full heart. In other words, let your pledge to the work and ministry of your congregation emerge from a true sense of thanksgiving for what this church family means to you.

"Nothing much is conveyed through **grudge** giving since 'The gift without the giver is bare.' Something more happens in **duty** giving, but there is no song in it. **Thanksgiving** is an open gate into the love of God."

Giving with gratitude. Giving with love. Giving with joy. Ready to share with all what God has done for each of us.

In Christ,  
**Rev'd. Bill**

\* \* \* \* \*

During most Sundays this fall, Rev. Hudson has asked different people to reflect on the meaning of the church in their lives or to share a personal experience. On one such Sunday, **Christine Reinprecht** shared this:

**C** is for **Christ**, who died on the cross for our sins and we come to worship.

**H** is for **healing**, as we can come broken and burdened and can leave healed.

**U** is for **unconditional love**, that Jesus has for us.

**R** is for **repent**, as we come to God asking for forgiveness for our sins.

**C** is for **community**, as we all gather together to praise Jesus.

**H** is for **hope**, that we can grow and be nurtured within this church.

## Congratulations!

Erik and Laura Butler are proud to announce the newest addition to the Butler Boys. **Jace Michael Butler** arrived at 8:02am on October 24, at 7 lbs 15.5 oz and 20 inches long. Congratulations from all of us at IPC to this growing family!!



## Bethany Community Meal

IPC members will help serve a community meal at Bethany Presbyterian Church on **Friday, November 22**. Contact the office if interested.

## Peace Making Offering

For World Communion Sunday (October 6), we collected the PC(USA) Peace & Global Witness Offering (a/k/a Peace Making), totaling **\$638**. 50% will be sent to the Presbyterian Mission Agency and 25% will be sent to our Presbytery. The remaining 25% is retained by IPC for peace, justice and reconciliation efforts.

## Knit Wits

Some of the 640 knitted, crocheted, and sewn items produced this year by the Knit Wits of IPC are on display in the Sanctuary until November 10. Some items have already been distributed to fulfill various needs in our local area of Cuyahoga County. This year, the Knit Wits are donating to the following organizations:

Bethany Presbyterian Church  
Broadview Manor Care  
Family Promise  
Love INC  
MetroHealth NICU and PICU  
Mariah House  
VA Hospital

Blankets and sets of scarfs, hats, and mittens will be packaged on November 10 for delivery to Love INC. The remaining items will be distributed to the other organizations.

~ Madeline Wateska

## Independence Holiday Fest

The Independence Holiday Fest will take place on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 4pm, at the Civic Center. IPC will be reserving a table with a Christmas display and donated handmade items for sale at the Holiday Fest. There is no cost for the booth as we are a non-profit entity. Any profits will be placed in IPC's general operating fund. Stop in after Sunday morning worship – you might find that one special gift, at a price that won't break the bank. Questions? Contact **Bev Rospierski** and the Rummage Sale Team.

**Final Call for 2019 Per Capita Contributions:** As reported earlier in the year, the IPC Session voted to collect per capita assessment directly from members, rather than funding per capita out of general operating budget. To date, we have collected per capita from **43** members. If you have not yet paid the per capita (\$32.41/person), please consider doing so **BY MID-DECEMBER** in order to help sustain the operations of the Presbytery, our Synod, and General Assembly. A final check submitting IPC's per capita contribution will be sent to Presbytery in December.

**Presbyterian Trivia:** Last month's question asked for the oldest Presbyterian church building in Ohio. This month it is, what is the oldest Presbyterian congregation in Ohio?

*Answer to October Trivia: The oldest Presbyterian church building in Ohio still in use as a church is West Union Presbyterian Church, built in 1810. The general/masonry contractor later became Governor of Kentucky, and one of the congregation's early organizers was Governor of Ohio in 1807-08.*

*[Correction to Answer to September Trivia ... Britany Spears is spelled with ONE "t". Which is why her name can be re-arranged to spell "Presbyterians"!]*

## Presbyterian 101

**Q:** Are there still colleges and universities affiliated with the Presbyterian denomination? Are there any in Ohio?

**A:** *According to the Association of Presbyterian Colleges and Universities, the non-profit group comprised of schools affiliated with PC(USA), there are over 50 post-secondary schools that identify in varying degrees of affiliation with PC(USA). Two of these are in Ohio: **College of Wooster** and **Muskingum University**. Two others are in nearby western Pennsylvania: **Waynesburg University** and **Westminster College**.*

*Muskingum was founded in 1837 in New Concord, a community largely comprised of Scotch-Irish farmers where the predominant religion was Presbyterian. Muskingum became formally associated with the Presbyterian church in 1877. Wooster was founded in 1866 as a Presbyterian college, and was owned by the Presbyterian church until 1969.*

*As described by the Association, the Presbyterian commitment to higher education traces back to the Protestant Reformation and John Calvin, who emphasized the importance of education as a vehicle for reforming the church. In addition to laying the foundation for what would eventually become the PC(USA), Calvin also established the Geneva Academy in Switzerland (later became the University of Geneva) to educate the poor in the liberal arts and sciences.*

*In the US, the Presbyterian emphasis on higher education dates to the founding of the College of New Jersey, which later became Princeton University. Presbyterian pastors and missionaries continued to spread across the emerging nation establishing churches, schools and colleges. By the start of the Civil War, Presbyterians had founded over a fourth of all the colleges in the United States.*

~ Wendy Lavey

## Financial Update and Looking Ahead ...

My goal is that IPC manage its finances such that the operating deficit be zeroed out or “closed” each year – i.e., that the budget be balanced even when expenses exceed income. In most churches, expenses do exceed income, and non-operating funds are used to cover the difference. For example, here, up to \$15,000/year from the Manse Fund is potentially available over the next 10+ years.

For **2018**, the operating deficit was ~\$36,000. That deficit was reduced to \$2,700 by drawing \$20,000 from the Buess Memorial Gift, \$12,500 from the Manse Fund and ~\$1,500 from the general Memorial Fund.

Our **2019** financial position is much better because we used pulpit supply for the first 4 months instead of paying a salaried pastor and Rev. Hudson’s compensation package is about 75% of the previous interim pastor’s package. We also saw increased giving in 2019, strong proceeds from the rummage sale, and some reduced expenses. Additionally, we tapped into the Memorial and Capital Improvement Funds for the water line, gas line and furnace work rather than using operating funds. As of 10/31/19, the projected operating deficit for 2019 is only **~\$1,000**. But this **assumes all outstanding pledges are met before the end of the year**. Please do your part! Any deficit at year-end will be “closed” by drawing from the Memorial Fund, Buess Memorial Gift and/or other “special purpose funds.” We do not expect to need to draw from the Manse Fund this year (which requires Congregation vote).

The **2020** budget is being finalized and anticipates an operating deficit of \$20-\$25k. Compensation for our next called pastor is unknown so the 2020 budget assumes the minimum Terms of Call allowed by Presbytery; we may need to pay more to attract the “right fit” for IPC. **This estimate assumes a 5% increase in Sunday collections**. Keep that in mind as you consider your pledge for 2020! The deficit will be “closed” as needed by drawing from the Manse Fund (~\$15k) and various other non-operating funds. The 2020 budget will be shared at the 12/1 Congregational meeting, and I am happy to meet with anyone with questions or who wants more detail.

~ Wendy Lavey, P&F Moderator

### Financial Corner:

Oct	Operating revenue	\$7,000	Operating expense	\$9,396	Net Operating income	(\$2,396)
YTD	Operating revenue	\$97,694	Operating expense	\$91,420	Net Operating income	+\$6,274

Independence Presbyterian Church  
6624 Public Square  
Independence, Ohio 44131

216-524-6307  
[ipcusaorg@gmail.com](mailto:ipcusaorg@gmail.com)  
[www.ipcusa.org](http://www.ipcusa.org)

Postage



TO:

*Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.*

*(Psalm 107:8-9)*

## Recent IPC Facebook posts

*September 22:* When we are blessed with abundance, let us remember to share it with our brothers and sisters who are in want. All blessings flow from God, and He wants us to use them to bless others.

*“When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.”*

**- Deuteronomy 24:21**

*Thank you to all contributors to the November issue of IPC's Towerbell: Rev. Bill Hudson, Butch Carr, Janis Carr, Nancy Jermann, Wendy Lavey, Lee McGovern, Kelly Savastano, Karen Shallcross, Joe Stern and Paula Trill. All errors belong to Wendy as editor and layout specialist! Color printing donated. Updates and articles are due to Wendy by the last day of the preceding month, although earlier is better!!*