



SonScriber

The monthly newsletter of Indian River Presbyterian Church

Indian River Presbyterian Church

is an ECO Congregation,

A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians

Two Worship Services

9:30 am - Contemporary

11:00 am - Traditional

Our Vision

IRPC envisions a movement of the Gospel transforming lives, communities, and the world.

Our Mission

Love God

Love Others

Make Disciples

Church Office:

772-464-4263

2499 Virginia Ave.

Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

Office Hours:

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

and 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Monday – Thursday

Congregational Care Line

(after hours)

772-494-0109

KEEP CURRENT

Logon to IRPCFAMILY.ORG

Campus Wi-Fi choose: IRPC_Guest

Password: irpc1234



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Facebook!



Follow us on
Instagram
[@irpcfamly](https://www.instagram.com/irpcfamly)

Dear IRPC Family,

From the Pastor's Pen 

Psalm 103 is a compelling psalm in which the author commands himself to praise God as a remedy for the human heart's tendency to forget God. "Praise the Lord my soul... and forget not his benefits." Of course, the author isn't assuming he will forget God exists. No, praise God guards his soul from emotional and spiritual distance — a relational forgetting.

On Sunday, November 28, over 75 people gathered after worship for a Celebration Lunch. Our goal was to spend time enjoying each other and praising God for all that he has brought us through in 2021. As I look back over the last 11 months, I'm struck by many provisions of God's grace:

- Our (re)Connect Groups were filled with stories of God being at work through scripture and through community.
- Our Vision Team has seen confirmation of the Holy Spirit's guidance and wisdom all throughout the process of discernment.
- Our youth leaders are seeing our students wrestling with hard truths, engaging their friends on mission, and growing in their faith.
- Our music ministry leaders graciously lead through all of the emotional, spiritual, and logistical challenges of facilitating worship in the mist of a pandemic. We even hosted our first ever outdoor Christmas Eve service and enjoyed it so much that we're doing it again for this year!
- We received a second PPP grant that helped stabilize our budget for this year.

Continued 

From the Pastor's Pen, Continued

- We did not have to shut down our Sunday gatherings despite the appearance of new COVID variants.
- Many of our Circles are actively serving the poor and marginalized in Ft. Pierce through their generous donations and volunteer work.
- Our church welcomed two babies as regular attenders.
- And much, much more!

Praise the Lord, indeed!

As we look ahead to 2022, I am excited for what God might do in and through us as a church. Here are some things we are prayerfully and excitedly planning to pursue after the new year:

- Our Living Nativity Reimagining Team will conclude their work and, Lord willing, we will host a newly reimagined Living Nativity in December 2022.
- Our traditional music program will return with small ensembles and special music!
- We will launch a sermon series to reveal and explore the sense of identity and calling that the elders and vision team discerned throughout this year.
- We will begin hosting a small, hispanic church plant on our campus as we explore ways God might be calling us to encourage each other in ministry.

Please pray for the leadership of IRPC as we follow God's guidance in each of these areas. I can only imagine how we will be praising God for new and unexpected glimpses of his grace all throughout 2022. God is on the move in our church, my friends!

Thank you for the privilege of serving you as your pastor!

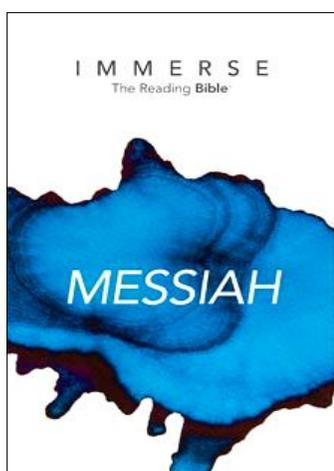
Tim



Tim Norton
Pastor / Head of Staff



Caleb's (Norton) first taste of "solid" food!
Sweet potatoes on Thanksgiving!



IRPC launched a trial run of (re)Connect groups with the purpose of inviting our church to (re)Connect with God and each other. Here are some quotes / celebrations from our participants:

- All members like the concept of reading a book as a whole, rather than picking out passages and beating them to death. It gives a bigger picture.
- One member who is a student of scripture and grounded in the word, sent an e-mail that said, "I definitely needed this and didn't even know it"
- "This wider picture gives me hope."
- "I haven't seen these stories before as "God on the move."
- One group member said, "this has been more than he could ever have hoped for! Very encouraging!"



To get ready for IRPC's Christmas Eve Services, a workday has been scheduled for Thursday, December 23rd beginning at 10:00 am. Tasks to be accomplished include setting up the manger scene, lights, photobooth, and parking lot, and general clean up of the grounds. Lunch will be provide, so please email Gwen at gwen@irpcfamilly.org if you are able to lend a hand.

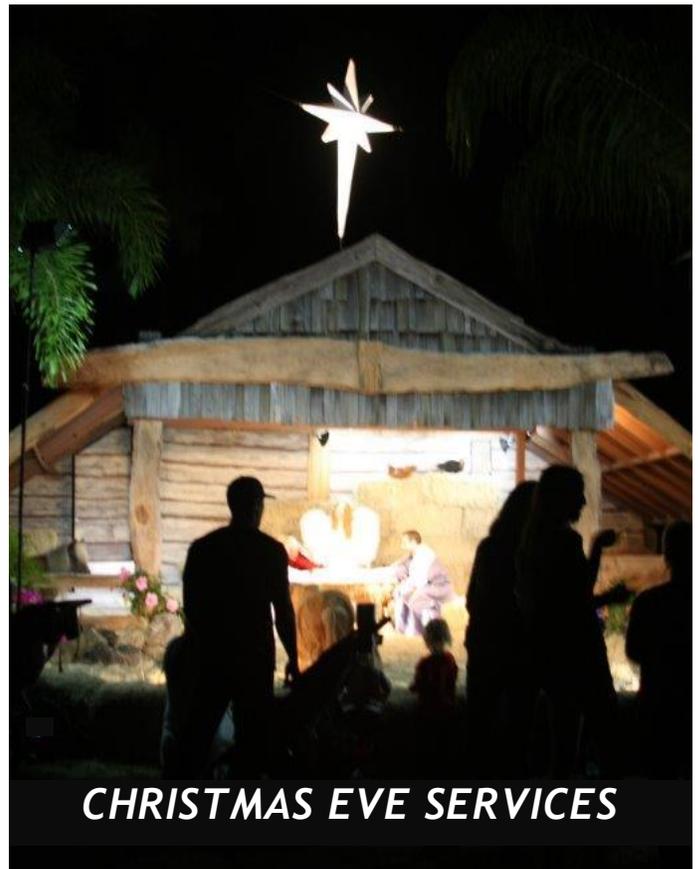
2021 Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to order a Poinsettia plant or plants in honor or memory of a loved one, please do so by December 16th. The cost is \$12.00 per plant.

The poinsettias will be used to adorn the Sanctuary and outside areas for IRPC's Christmas Eve services.

Poinsettias may be taken home for you to enjoy immediately following the Christmas Eve services.

You may order your poinsettias by contacting the church office (772 -464-4263 ext. 112) or by going to the IRPC website, clicking on the "Contact Us" tab and "Order Poinsettias" from the drop down menu.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

IRPC will once again celebrate this Christmas with two Christmas Eve Services. A traditional candlelight service will take place in the IRPC Sanctuary at 5:00 PM on Friday, December 24th

As a means of honoring its Nativity tradition, an outdoor candlelight contemporary worship service will take place in front of the Nativity manger scene beginning at 7:30 PM Christmas Eve. Those who plan to attend this service are encouraged to bring a folding chair.

***"For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be
on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."***

- Isaiah 9:6

**INTERESTED IN BEING
PART OF THE
IRPC PRAYER TEAM ?**

Would you like to be part of the IRPC Prayer Team? If so, please contact Al Rivett at al@irpcfamly.org or call 772-464-4263 ext. 112. Prayer Team members get an updated prayer request list each week. Each person is committed to fill the requests up to our Lord Jesus on a regular basis.

**CONSIDER HELPING IRPC
AS YOU SHOP ONLINE
THIS CHRISTMAS
(See below as to how)**



Shop at smile.amazon.com
and Amazon donates.



Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible SmileAmazon purchases to IRPC when you shop using the SmileAmazon website.

SmileAmazon is the same Amazon: same products - same prices - same service. Just set up an account at smile.amazon.com and designate IRPC as your charity of choice.

It's that simple!

PRAYER REQUESTS

(As of November 23, 2021)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- ***Everyone on the Confidential Prayer List***
- ***Persecuted Christians around the world***
- ***Those who are lost***
- ***The sick and homeless***
- ***Everyone in light of the Coronavirus***
- ***Our Country*** - that God's grace and power be realized in the lives of her people
- ***All military men and women including:*** Shannon Arena, Erin (Andrew & Joanna Marsh's nephew), Jean Fede, Shawn M. Kendig, and Preston Marsh
- ***The Grove Church*** – which is our IRPC Church Plant, Pastor David Hancock, his Family and Team
- ***IRPC Pastor & his family, Tim, Kendra, & Caleb Norton***
- ***Leaders of IRPC and its denomination ECO, and of local, state, and federal governments***
- ***Prayer Requests from the March-April Congregational Care Calls***

MEMBERS:

Ann Abernethy, Nan Allen, Rollin & Joan Ankeny, Dick & Helen Boyd, Beverly Butt, Judy Carlin, John Clegg, Judy Cornell, Marion Daum, Paul Dreyer, Carol Dyer, Andrew Givans, Dick Goebel, Sandy Hartley, David Hayslip, Dee Jacques, Carole Kerber, Shirley Krueger, Phyllis Larned, Doris McCahon, Anne McCleary, Roger & Joan Molag, Ericka Nelson, Donald & Virginia Pascoe, Connie Steel, Suzi Southland, The Trewyn Family, Mary Turner, Christine VanGelderren, Roger Wallman, Elizabeth Watson, June Wauters, Carolyn Welsh, and Jean White.

FRIENDS:

Trell & Anne Adams, Armande, Sean Baker, Jarrod Baird, Rick & Laurie Bell, Gloria Bonner, Ellis Brown & her family, Robert Busking, Sheryl C., Eric Carter, Devin Cerny, Lou Cevetello, Jaya Chetri, Debbie Colon, Sue Cooke, Micah Davino, Dia's brother, Jamie Dunn, Betty Evans-Brown, Claudio Gomez, Granddaughter of Artie Roan, Judy Grey, Cruz Hancock, Wendy Hollyfield, Chris Hutchings, Stephen Kerber, Dan L., Lorraine, Lynn, Steve M., Marcus Monaco, Don & Sandy McDonald, Travis & Suzanne Michaud, Al Mizell, Morgan, Steve Murray, Neal Passimore, Philip, Tim Rice, Logan Roberts, Ron & Marilyn Robertson, Arlene Rohan, Barbara Rylott, Sathish, Seve & Jackie, Jean Sheets, Immanuel Singh, Velma Sowerby, Sylvia Steacy, Travis & Kimberly, Sandra Urrea, Rusty & Brooke Varn, Dallas Wagoner, Larry Wagoner, Don Walker, and Richard Weston.



Henry James LaBelle

Cathy Dixon

Deborah Girling

Shirley Krueger

David Sowerby

Jeff Schneider

Ruth Stromak

Eileen Richardson

Sara Counts

Norma Axx

Mark George

Dick Boyd

Judy Fox

Chris Passman

Toni Baptiste

Michelle Hoff

Melanie Shrensel

Stephanie Fowler

Beverlee Smith

Rick Tinsley

Owen Chastain

Jim Gastineau

Jinny Holler

Ken Grieco

Novalee Morales

Coleen "C" Little

Martin & Darla Mangels

Steven & April Knapp

David & Betty Carling

Keith Crawford & C Little

Bernie & Beverly Craft

Richard & Shirley Pfaff

Rollin & Joan Ankeny

Bruce & Cathy Dixon

Al & Donna Rivett

Andrew & Joanna Marsh

Bill & Rosie Padrick



Homebound and/or Assisted Living

Nan Allen

Rollin & Joan Ankeny

Helen & Dick Boyd

David Cannon

Marion Daum

Bruce & Vonda Dixon

Sandy Hartley

Gene Hebb

Carole Kerber

Marian Lawrence

Doris McCahon

Fred & Carolyn Moson

Don Smith

Harold & Connie Steel

June Wauters

Eric Withers

Check out **Christian Resources** in the
Connect tab on IRPC's website,
www.irpcfamly.org.

InterVarsity is a Christian student outreach on the campuses of Indian River State College.

Update:

This month, InterVarsity had 8-12 students participating in the Bible study group on Fort Pierce campus. They are committed and hungry to grow in relationship with God and to learn how to study the Bible.

Two (2) faculty members came the recent celebration meeting and one of them wants to get involved. There are a lot of connections and details where God is involved with the mission of InterVarsity on campus, and it is great to be a part of it and see God at work!

Thank you for your fellowship in the mission work of transforming students and faculty to become world changers through relationship with Jesus Christ!

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN CLUB



ABOVE: A recent celebration meeting with students and faculty. It was a great time of fellowship and food.



Our annual camping trip has become the most attended event we host and we are always excited for it. But this year having planned an awesome weekend of outdoor fellowship, festivities, and fun we grew increasingly concerned as our beautiful weekend quickly become colder and wetter.

As we watched the forecast continue to worsen, so did our moral. We even considered (for a very brief moment) canceling the trip. But after consulting some student leaders about what they think we should do, every single one of them wanted to attend and make the best of it... and that is exactly what they did!



KEEP UP WITH US AT
www.irpcfamly.org
including weekly
sermon messages

Info on IRPC's Website:

- * IRPC's ministry partners
- * Sunday Order of Worship for both services
- * "Our News" including monthly SonSubscriber newsletters
- * List of persons on IRPC's prayer list



Because of you, Indian River Presbyterian Church, in obedience to the call from God, GraceWay Village became:

- ♦ *a place where those who were hungry would be fed.*
- ♦ *a place where children and teens could get clothes, allowing them to go to school and live life "normal" in at least one area.*
- ♦ *a place where the lonely could come for fellowship and care.*

As we leave the season of "Thanksgiving", the sentiment of the heart remains. I am thankful for you!

*Blessings,
Cathie Mouring, CEO
Grace Way Village
772.529.7860
info@gracewayvillage.com
www.gracewayvillage.com*



On behalf of the Esther Circle, Nancy Swanson (left) and Bobbylee Wilson (right) deliver food pantry items to GraceWay Village (GWV). Receiving the donation is Chrystal Netherton GWV Chief Operations Officer.

RIVER STUDENTS



Alex Hagenbaumer
Director of Youth Ministries

Every year our River Students take a week to celebrate Thanksgiving together. As part of our celebration, we took some intentional time to show our appreciation for all of our leaders and kitchen volunteers for all that they do for our students every week. After I was done sharing my appreciation one of our students, Sean Wallman, stood up to share. Over the course of the next few minutes he personally and intentionally shared how he was thankful for each leader and how they contributed to his relationship with the Lord. *Cue a river of tears*

For those of you that don't know, Sean grew up in IRPC and I've had the privilege of being his youth director for the last 5 years. I am in awe of God for the man He has created Sean to be. From a little distracted and crazy 7th grader to a deeply caring and compassionate 12th grader, God has been faithful in Sean's spiritual growth.

Sean is just one story of transformation and growth amongst the students within our youth group. Please join me in consistently praying for these students. God is on the move in their lives!

*"Love the Lord your God with
all your heart and with
all your soul and with
all your mind.' This is the first
and greatest commandment.
And the second is like it:
'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

Matthew 22:37-39



Women's Ministries 2021 November Thanksgiving SOCK TREE FINAL REPORT

for the Clothing Boutique at GraceWay Village (GWV)
(formerly known as Hope's Closet 4 Children)



Thank you, IRPC!

<i>Boys' Socks</i>	<i>145 pairs of socks</i>
<i>Girls' Socks</i>	<i>141 pairs of socks</i>
<i>Total Socks Delivered</i>	<i>286 pairs of socks</i>

PLUS - 5 bags of nonperishable groceries were donated to the GWV Food Pantry before Thanksgiving!

LET'S MAKE CHRISTMAS A LITTLE MORE MERRY

Please help the Rebekah Circle decorate the [Christmas Tree with socks for the children](#) served by GWV. Place any nonperishable groceries in the Food Boxes located under the tree in the Narthex for GraceWay Village (GWV)!

Attention Quilters & Crafters

Do you consider yourself handy with a needle? Would you like to be? If so, the Quilters & Crafters extend a standing invitation to join them in Sample Hall each Wednesday from 9:00-11:00 am. Just bring your knitting, crocheting, cross stitch, and/or quilting project.

MUSTARD SEED MINISTRIES

An IRPC Ministry Partner

Mustard Seed needs our help to keep their pantry full! Donations can be placed in the brown benches located in the hallway between the Sanctuary and fellowship hall.

Requested Items for December:

Canned tuna & chicken, jelly, boxes of mac & cheese, and personal items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, & other hygiene products.)