



**JOHN AND KAREN IRWIN**

John and Karen Irwin – persistence, faith and a road well traveled

How exciting to have John and Karen Irwin join our TPC family. They have shared a great deal during their 38 year marriage.

John was born in Washington, DC, the son of a Presbyterian minister. The family lived in Maryland and Pennsylvania for eleven years before moving to San Diego. John has three older sisters and a brother, and was the self-described trouble maker, nothing serious, just a little holy terror.

John was starting seventh grade when they moved to San Diego. The next year he first felt his calling – a calling he resisted, as he did not want to follow in his father’s footsteps. Complicating the mixed emotions of his calling was the family’s subsequent transfer to a church in Longview, Washington just before John’s senior year in high school. Despite the culture shock, John finished high school, attended Longview Community College and joined the Army, stationed at Fort Lewis.

Karen was born in Santa Monica, California and grew up in one house in Menlo Park. Karen has a brother and a sister, and grew up in the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church. She was a bit of a rebel, too. Her mother often didn’t approve of her choice in boyfriends. After high school, she went out of state and graduated from Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington.

Fate and mutual friends brought these two together. When Karen introduced John to her mom for the first time, she invited him to stay for dinner. (Karen was stunned). They were married in 1978.

John continued at Evergreen State College and with degrees in hand, they started their life as a

young married couple, living in a basement apartment at the Longview Community Church where John’s dad had served. Things were going well, until Mt. St. Helen’s erupted and jobs became scarce. Back to Menlo Park....

John worked in patient accounting for a practice of cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons, while Karen worked at Stanford University. In 1983, their son, Patrick, was born. About this time John asked one of the surgeons if he would reduce a patient’s bill by \$800, as she was facing a second heart surgery without adequate insurance. The doctor refused. Upon hearing the news, the patient had a heart attack at John’s desk and died. With that, John was done. He and Karen made plans and John enrolled at Pittsburgh Theology Seminary. He was finally following his calling.

The late 80’s were full of studies and student pastor roles at local churches. Karen worked at Carnegie Mellon University to keep the house afloat. John graduated in 1991. While awaiting a Call, they battled with the presbytery over his ordination. After a short pastorate in central Pennsylvania, John and Karen moved on to a church in Monmouth, Illinois.

While John was interviewing for the pastoral position in Monmouth, several members of the congregation realized that he was the son of a pastor who had served in town decades earlier. John was truly following in his father’s footsteps; the family called this congregation home for the next 21 years.

A routine medical examination in 2008 almost cost John his life, due to a ruptured colon. He was rushed to Peoria for emergency, life-saving surgery. Serious complications ensued, but he enjoyed a full recovery – again, faith and persistence. Karen and John then reassessed many aspects of their life together. Ultimately, they decided to retire from pastoral ministry.

After retiring, Karen and John relocated to the Northwest. Their son and daughter-in-law, Patrick and Erika, reside in Canby, which made the moving decision much easier. We are grateful they are close and that we get to enjoy these wonderful, complex and interesting people.

Russ Carlin, Deacon, Parish 5

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TPC

### NEW DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES



We are pleased to announce that Sarah Beck joined the TPC staff on April 26, 2016 as the Director of Youth and Family Ministries. Sarah has a long history of working with children of all ages, including the Boys and Girls Club and over 15 years experience mentoring high risk high school students. Most recently she was the Youth Leader at St. James Episcopal Church. Sarah holds an MS degree from Portland State University.

Sarah will be working collaboratively with Drew Hall as she transitions into her new role. Look for Drew to coordinate Youth Sunday on May 29 and also to play a major role in this year's mission trip for youth.

Sarah will be meeting with parents as she reviews and evaluates TPC's educational curriculum, materials and processes. Please extend a warm welcome to Sarah.



### BUILDING AND GROUNDS CARETAKER

The members of session approved the addition of a Building and Grounds Caretaker position to attend to the myriad of tasks not covered by our janitorial and grounds keeping services. Start-

ing May 2nd, Bob Paetsch will officially join the TPC staff in this capacity working 10 hours per week.

Judy Nix, Human Resources Elder

## WHAT IS HAPPENING



### ADULT EDGE 8:45 A.M. ON SUNDAYS

We are discussing the book *Permission Granted: Take the Bible into Your Own Hands*, written by Jennifer Bird. All are welcome. Won't you join us?

John Casebeer, Adult Education Elder



### Birthday Bags

### TUESDAY'S TREASURES AND MISSION

Members of Tuesday's Treasures are collecting items for the Tualatin Food Pantry's Birthday Bag program. Please bring birthday party items to TPC now through May 15 for this fun stewardship project. See the sign in the narthex near the office for current needs. We are collecting cake mix, frosting, birthday plates, cups, and napkins, candles, birthday cards (child/young adult), streamers, party favors (e.g. hats, noise makers, etc., but no balloons), disposable cake pan and birthday gift bags large enough to hold the above items.

Carolyn Locke

Tuesday's Treasures Coordinator and  
Member of the Mission Committee

### Fellowship Dinner



### FELLOWSHIP DINNER GROUPS

Now is the time to sign up for Fellowship Dinners. We are about to shuffle the groups again and signing up now will let you get into a group right away.

Fellowship diners are groups of 7 to 9 people who meet four times in four months for a meal and fellowship. The groups usually meet in homes, but they have met in restaurants, parks and at TPC. The hosts provide the main course and others bring side dishes, dessert, etc. Sometimes games or activities are included. Each group decides the times that work best for all to gather. While most groups meet in the evening for dinner, a brunch has sometimes worked best. Summer time offers so many exciting alternatives, so be creative.

After each four-month phase the computer comes up with new random groups. This gives everybody the chance to connect and know even more people in the church. New church members will find this a great way to get better acquainted and longtime members find it a way to expand their relationships with other church members.

Current participation in the winter phase are already signed up, and do not need to do anything to continue. However, if you are a current participant

and wish to opt out of the summer phase, let us know by May 15th. You may sign up or opt out using the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by emailing Rick Crall, Crall@spiritone . com by May 15th. You will receive an email with your group listed about May 19th, and the groups will be posted in the narthex on Sunday, May 22nd.



## WOMEN'S Ministry

### **WOMEN'S MINISTRY SATURDAY, MAY 21 AT 10:30 A.M.**

Ever wondered how you might better support our beloved Melissa Evers-

Hood in her inherited role of "pastor's wife"? We are giving you a chance to ask questions, gain information and participate in what is sure to be a lively discussion with Presbyterian Minister Wives. Please join us for a brunch on Saturday, May 21st for a panel discussion with Liz Belz-Templeman, Edda Brown, Melissa Evers-Hood, Karen Irwin, and Jeni Wiggers.

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to indicate whether you wish to bring a brunch item, participate in set-up or help with cleanup. To the left of the sign-in sheet are "take ones" for our two mission projects: Backpack Buddy Program and Days for Girls. All items you donate to these causes are most appreciated.

This women's group is open to all TPC women who want to strengthen the bonds of fellowship and grow spiritually. Please feel free to bring a friend.  
Judy Nix, Communications Coordinator

### **CHRISTINA'S ATTIC**

Get ready to enjoy a new sanctuary art exhibit in May. Mary Shiffer will share more of her amazing, fantastic, incredible art quilts, starting the Sunday after Pentecost, May 22,

Creating in the image of our Creator,  
Chris Robertson, Art Director

## **WHAT HAS HAPPENED?**

### **TUESDAY'S TREASURES TIDBITS**

It was celebration time at our April 19 Treasure Night. First, it has been 15 years since our very first TPC Treasure Night back in April 2001 and secondly, we were delighted about the presence of



six new Treasures attending this month. Gardener Mary Shiffer assisted Treasures in planting nasturtium seeds, a fitting project for her "Parable of the Sower" lesson. Meanwhile Denise served a snack of but-

terflies...the pretzel/hummus variety.

(Pictured are Cierra Killian and Paul Dechaine.)

In May the Treasures (adults with disabilities) will assemble the birthday bags as a service project for the Tualatin Food Pantry. They will then present the bags during worship on May 22, Treasure Sunday. Because they have a goal of 100 Birthday Bags, we especially thank all of you who are donating birthday bag supplies

### **APRIL SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

On Sunday, April 17th, Pastor Ken taught a class at Westminster Presbyterian on the irrationality of political elections.

Approval was given to participate in mission projects of collecting used clothes organized by a local school district, and collecting supplies for local refugee families.

A new part-time position of Building and Ground Caretaker was approved. Employment of Bob Paetsch as the Building and Ground Caretaker, Sarah Beck as the Director of Youth and Family Ministries and Mike Shiffer as the Financial Assistant was approved.

Funds were approved to send two TPC members to Stephen Ministry Leader Training. Pastor Ken will also attend this training.

Several initial steps to begin updating the Narthex were approved, and we may begin to see some changes within the next 4 to 6 weeks.

Our hosting of 50 General Assembly delegates for worship and lunch on Sunday, June 19th will be getting into full swing by mid-May. Watch for opportunities to help. Also, be sure to look at pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter to learn of the many volunteer opportunities for on-site help at the General Assembly meeting.

The previous information has been compiled from session minutes. Complete copies of minutes and reports are available in the church office.

Rick Crall, Clerk of Session

#### **APRIL CONGREGATIONAL MTG HIGHLIGHTS**

At the congregational meeting on April 24th, Chris Robertson was elected to fill the unexpired portion of the elder position for Family Ministry (class of 2017). For the class of 2019, Greg Owen was elected to the elder position for Building and Grounds, Judy Nix was re-elected for a second term as Human Resources Elder, and Emily Ricker was re-elected to a second term as Fellowship and Member Integration Elder. Three of the four positions for the deacon class of 2019 were filled by Jan Bender, Andrew Perkins and Pamela White.

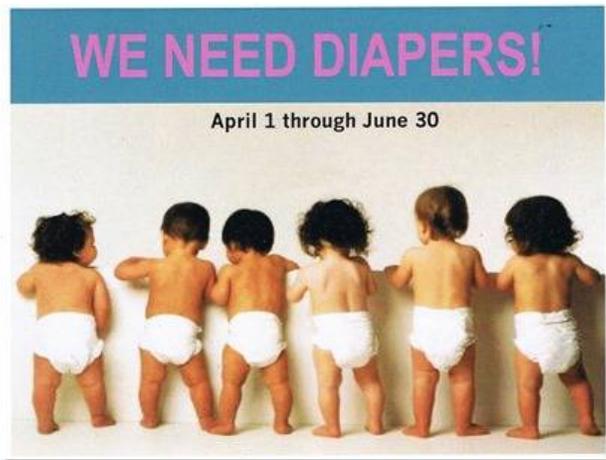
#### **DAYS FOR GIRLS KITS CHANGING LIVES OF GIRLS IN MUMBAI**

TPC works in conjunction with the Eugene Days for Girls Chapter to provide supplies and make bags for the Days for Girls kits. We were thrilled to learn that last month travelers took four 50 lb. duffel bags of completed Days for Girls kits to Mumbai, Africa. It is exciting to know that those 200 kits contained the supplies the women of TPC donated and bags they had sewn. These little kits will help girls stay in school and live their lives with dignity. Thanks to all of you who have donated wash cloths, Ziploc bags, soaps, fabric, money or sewn bags that made this possible.

Girls lives are greatly enhanced by these kits. After kit distribution in Uganda, school absenteeism dropped from 36% to 8%! Huffington Post named Days for Girls as a “Next Ten” organization to change the world in the next decade.

Please continue to support this worthwhile international mission effort. There is a list of needed items in the narthex. The need for these kits continues as the Days for Girls model is expanding into 8 more countries.

Nancy Church, TPC Liaison



#### **USED CLOTHING AND (UNUSED) DIAPER DRIVE**

We are collecting used clothing and new diapers (open packages acceptable) for Northwest Children’s Outreach (NWCO), a non-profit volunteer organization that helps children and teens in Clackamas County. NWCO gives clothing, hygiene items, and books/toys to children and teens identified by local care providers as needing help. We are concentrating on collecting diapers and used clothing - including coats, shoes, swimsuits, etc., but will accept anything on their list! They take clothing for infants through teenagers (XS-XL) so if you, your family, grandkids, or friends have items to donate, please bring them to the church during the month of May. There will be a collection box in the narthex and downstairs.

Following is a partial list of things they can always use: diapers, toys and books, new or gently-used clothing (newborns to teens) including shoes, coats, swimsuits, pj’s, socks, underwear, etc., hygiene products for children and teens (soap/wash, toothbrushes/paste, shave cream, deodorant, hairbrushes, combs), hygiene products for infants (wipes, diaper cream, baby bath), hygiene products for new moms (sanitary napkins, soap, deodorant, etc.), feeding products for infants and children (bowls, bottles, cups, eating utensils, bibs, etc.), nursery items (blankets, new cribs, crib sheets, changing pads, changing tables, infant towels, nursery furniture), children’s safety products (new car seats, household safety products, childproofing equipment, etc.), breastfeeding products, and formula.

Thank you for your help,  
Kaity and Shari Olsen

**222nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
of the  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
June 18-25, 2016 in Portland, OR  
at the Oregon Convention Center.**

**WHAT IS GA?**

General Assembly (GA) is the bi-annual gathering of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). It is where business and concerns are brought before the whole church for discernment. But, as the largest gathering of Presbyterians in North America it is a whole lot more. Worship is a constant heartbeat of GA; we celebrate mission, and it serves as a sort of family reunion.

The structure of the Presbyterian Church traces back to 1789 when both the Presbyterian Church and the Continental Congress met separately in Philadelphia. There are several parallels between the Presbyterian structure and our U.S. government. Our presbyteries, synods and General Assembly mirror our city, state and national government.

GA is representative democracy at its best. Often changes to the Book of Order are brought to GA through overtures originating in sessions and presbyteries. At GA, committees review, debate and vote what to do with these overtures. Some of these make it to the floor (plenary sessions) for debate and vote. Some pass; some fail, and many are amended to reflect a broader understanding through GA conversations.

So a part of what happens is this discernment process where the delegates, representing the nationwide PCUSA membership, strive to govern the church from their collective understanding of the will of God.

Hosted by the Presbytery of the Cascades and united under the theme "The Hope in Our Calling," from Ephesians 1:18, the General Assembly will include vibrant worship services, the election of the Moderator and Vice Moderator, and action on a variety of overtures and more.

The Opening Worship Service is on Saturday, June 18. EVERYONE IS INVITED.

**MANY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The organizers of the general assembly are asking for 1500 volunteers. Here's where the help is needed:

Airport - Total: 142

- Security Greeter (28)
- Helpdesk Kiosk (72)
- Airport MAX Greeter (10)
- Convention Center MAX Greeter (16)
- Pioneer MAX Greeter (16)

Hotels - Total: 120

- Hotel greeters (120)

Convention Center Setup Teardown - Total: 58

- Register Packet Prep (10)
- GA Setup Assistance (30)
- Exhibit Booth Setup (2)
- GA Teardown (10)
- Exhibit Booth Teardown (2)
- Information Center Teardown (2)

Convention Center General - Total: 405

- Convention Center Greeter (128)
- Volunteer Checkin (52)
- GA Registration Assistant (68)
- Plenary Hall Usher (20)
- Information Center Volunteer (48)
- Exhibit Booth Host (34)
- Final Day Luggage Assistance (55)

Worship and Communion - Total: 750

- Communion Elements Manager (12)
- Communion Servers (490)
- Communion Elements Prep (40)
- Communion Elements Cleanup (40)
- Prayer Room Host (42)
- Spiritual Directors (42)
- Worship Service Ushers (84)

If you would like to volunteer, keep reading.

When you volunteer, the following happens:

Advance registration fee is waived (\$95 value)

Volunteer name badge is received (provides same access as the GA Observer badge)

May attend all worship services, committee meetings, business meetings (plenary), and you have access to the exhibit hall

**To register on the volunteer site, go to  
[www.gaportland.com](http://www.gaportland.com) and choose your volunteer tasks.**

<http://www.gaportland.com/volunteer-to-help-with-ga/>

## SUNDAY, JUNE 19 POTLUCK AT TPC

### General Assembly Commissioners to Worship with Local Congregations

On Sunday, June 19, more than thirty congregations in the Presbytery of the Cascades (of which TPC is a member) will welcome assembly participants and host these guests for lunch.

Tualatin Presbyterian Church is one of these hosting congregations. A group of General Assembly delegates will worship and have lunch with us here at TPC on Sunday, June 19.

### WHO COMES TO GA?

Commissioners and advisory delegates from all 171 PC(USA) presbyteries, coupled with other delegates and observers from around the world, will converge on the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) in downtown Portland for celebrations, deliberations, and inspirations in support of the denomination's biennial gathering.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about General Assembly see The April-May 2016 issue of the Omnibus, published by the Presbytery of the Cascades, Vol. XLII, No. 2. The Omnibus can be read in its entirety at: <https://cascadespresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-April-May-Omnibus.pdf>

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY PHONE REQUEST #1

A member of the organizing committee for General Assembly called the TPC office this week. They would like to have someone praying for each of the 600 commissioners who will attend the General Assembly here in Portland. The caller asked that I ask members of our congregation if they would be willing to pray for one of the 600 commissioners. This request first went out on the prayer chain and I have heard back from 6 individuals who have said they will pray for a specific commissioner during the week of GA.

If you are willing to pray for someone during General Assembly, June 18 through 25, please call Susan Springer in the church office (503) 692-4160 or send an email to [susan@tpcspirit.org](mailto:susan@tpcspirit.org). Thanks for your help.

## PHONE REQUEST #2

This caller is looking for individuals to help prepare the communion elements, specifically to cut bread into squares. This can be done here at TPC; no trip downtown is required. If you can help on Thursday, June 16 or Friday, June 17, please let Susan Springer in the office know. Thanks.



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

01 - Elise Schmidt  
02 - Craig Walker  
02 - Wesley Shiffer  
03 - Yvonne Wagner  
03 - Joan Nardi  
03 - Michael Ratliff  
04 - Scott MacCluer  
04 - Rick Mauer  
06 - Michael Weaver  
07 - Mark Robertson  
07 - Emmons Ratliff  
08 - Diane Paetsch  
09 - Robert Weener

09 - Ella Evers-Hood  
11 - Ron VanSchoiack  
11 - Dave Backen  
14 - Karen Black  
14 - Benjamin Whitaker  
14 - Megan Weener  
15 - Dorothy Martin  
15 - Laura Byers  
16 - Alex Lewis  
17 - Sandy Reiling  
17 - Gary Frey  
17 - Scott Cameron  
20 - Rebecca Wood

21 - Ronn Rhodes  
21 - Cackie Kyle  
23 - Emily Mazzuca  
24 - Emerson Wood  
24 - Jose Corona  
24 - Brian Jones  
25 - Regan Fant  
30 - Susan Cameron  
30 - Matt Winkler  
30 - Monica Gibson  
31 - Scott Mazzuca

# TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

For the latest calendar updates, go to [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org) and click on About Us, then select Calendar from the drop-down menu..

## MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:45 Adult Edge class 10:00 Worship Sunday School  5 p.m. The Awaken- ing for youth  7-8:30 p.m. Nights Discussion w/Ken	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal	<b>5</b> 10 a.m. Project Linus  7 p.m. Bell choir rehearsal	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Mother's Day</b> 8:45 Adult Edge class 10:00 Worship Sunday School	<b>9</b> 7 p.m. Deacon Meeting	<b>10</b> 7 p.m. Mission meeting.  7 p.m. Fellow- ship meeting	<b>11</b> 10 a.m. Loving Stitches  7 p.m. Choir rehearsal	<b>12</b> 7 p.m. Bell choir rehearsal	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45 Adult Edge class 10:00 Worship 5 p.m. The Awaken- ing for youth 7 pm Tualatin Valley Symphony Concert	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7 p.m. Tuesday's Treasures Night	<b>18</b> 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal	<b>19</b> 7 pm Session Meeting  7 p.m. Bell choir rehearsal	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:30 a.m. Men's Fellow- ship Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Women's Fellowship Brunch
<b>22</b> 8:45 Adult Edge class 10:00 Worship Treasure Sunday 5 p.m. The Awaken- ing for youth	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9 a.m. May newsletter deadline	<b>25</b> 10 a.m. Loving Stitches  7 p.m. Choir rehearsal	<b>26</b> 7 p.m. Bell choir rehearsal	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:45 Adult Edge class 10:00 Worship Youth Sunday 5 p.m. The Awaken- ing for youth	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

2016 FINANCIALS	Actuals	Budget	Dollar Difference
Operating Income Year to Date 3/31/16	\$109,169	\$112,635	(\$3,464)
Operating Expenses Year to Date 3/31/16	\$100,986	\$106,365	\$5,379

TPC office hours can vary. Call ahead to confirm the office is open.  
 Monday, 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.



9230 SW Siletz Drive  
Tualatin, OR 97062



TUALATIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
9230 SW Siletz Drive, Tualatin, OR 97062  
**Phone:** 503-692-4160 **Email:** [office@tpcspirit.org](mailto:office@tpcspirit.org)  
**Web Address:** [www.tpcspirit.org](http://www.tpcspirit.org) We're also on Facebook.  
**Worship Service – Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Ken Evers-Hood

**Parish Associates:** The Rev. Charlie Brown, The Rev. Dr. Dick Wiggers

**Elders:** Craig Bowen, John Casebeer, Cathy Lambeth, Joan Nardi, Judy Nix, Bob Paetsch, Emily Ricker and Maureen Wolf

**Deacons:** Becky Backen, Karen Black, Susan Cameron, Russ Carlin, Rebecca Crall, Bob Eddy, Susan Fee, Dianne Lemmon, Deborah Lewis, Mary Maleta, Bonnie Nord, and Jackie Norman.

Administrative Assistant: Susan Springer  
Financial Assistant: Mike Shiffer  
Director of Music Ministries: Dr. David Kelly  
Accompanist: Dr. Ron Fabbro  
Bell Choir Director: Debbie Ivanov  
Director of Youth Ministries: Andrew Hall  
Director of Youth and Family Ministries: Sarah Beck  
Art Director: Chris Robertson  
Bereavement Committee Chair: Barbara Crall  
Blood Drive Coordinator: Scott Cameron

Clerk of Session: Rick Crall  
Cookie Coordinator: Sue Hayhurst  
Membership Coordinator: Jeni Wiggers  
Newsletter Editor: Susan Springer  
Parish Nurse: Dianne Lemmon  
Prayer Chain: Greg Imus  
Treasurer: Jennifer Ayers  
Tuesdays Treasures Coordinator: Carolyn Locke  
Webmaster: John Martin  
Wedding Coordinator: Stacy Mauer

**Office hours may vary; call ahead to confirm.**

Monday – 9:00 a.m. to noon, Tuesday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m., Friday – 9:00 a.m. to noon