



A CLIFTON NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH STRIVING TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS

The Reflection Immanuel Presbyterian Church

February

WWW.IMMANUELPRESBY.ORG

Outside

The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. 12 And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. 13 Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. 14 For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. 15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

- Hebrews 13:11-16, TNIV

Go outside

And praise the God who mapped the stars out in the sky

Gather 'round with those who love and sing

He is our King, he is our King

No one should be left out

- **Rev. Troy Bronsink, good friend & NmPC's Curator of Worship & Music**

This is a great passage from Hebrews. We have a high priest, Jesus, who represents us in his being as Son of God at the very center of God in

the Trinity. This Jesus also represents to us God in his humanity. It was Jewish custom to offer a sacrifice of gratitude to atone for their sins. Jesus pays the ultimate sacrifice by giving up his own life on our behalf.

As we approach Lent, we are called towards this God through the actions of Jesus. Jesus represents us in his birth, life, death, and resurrection. He does for us what we cannot do for ourselves. We also are born through him, live through him, die with him, and are resurrected into new life through him.

We are also called to follow Jesus wherever he goes. In his death, he was crucified outside the city gates. Jerusalem was where the Temple was, where Israel believed that the Presence of God dwelt. Yet, Jesus was, the very Presence of God in and to humanity, was killed outside on the city dump.

In his death, we are called to also go outside. We are called to follow him outside the church walls into the world around us, oftentimes to places where we may not want to go. Places that are filled with the stench of death and darkness. Yet, we are called there.

It's scary, it's uncomfortable, and it doesn't seem like this crazy world outside the church walls is very safe. It may cost us everything. Even our lives...yet, we are called to go there.

When we do go, we find that God is at work even in the midst of death. This is a God who brings new life where it seems like there is only

death. Once outside, bearing our identity as Christ followers and out of a community of like-minded folks (the church...a community of persons, not a brick building), we find ourselves coming alive. It makes us want to praise God in wonderful ways, with our lips, with our actions, with our very lives. It makes worship real and not self-serving.

Friends, this church is experiencing growth in Lent and throughout the year! Growth that comes out of the death of Christ that leads to resurrection! I am seeing it every day as we see folks go "outside" into their neighborhoods and city meeting others, engaging others, loving others.

As we move through Lent, may we remember these words from Galatians 2:20:

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (TNIV)

Our identity lies in Christ alone. May we remember that always and not forget to "do good", to share with others, and to be the Church to a world that doesn't need another brick building, but needs life transforming relationships that point towards a life transforming God!

Let's **"Go Outside!"**

God's Peace,

Rich

Prayer Requests

Please join us in prayer for the following:

Jean Soergel
 Rex, cousin of Rose Mary Novelli
 Brian, friend of Kathy Smart
 Dorothy Sutton, sister-in-law of Babs Graves
 Kai, friend of Jay Erisman
 Emma Lou Hartkemeier
 Rita Snook, mother of Kathy Smart
 Liz Ragouzis
 Chris Wells, brother of Donn Jean Wells
 Alex Agenbroad
 Mary Schmidt
 Joey, husband of Brooklin Taylor
 Suzanne Sutton, sister of Bab Graves
 David Sterner, brother of Mark Sterner
 Mike Domenick, friend of Erica Slusher
 Otto Warmbier & family
 Jan Erisman
 Reed, friend of Jay Erisman
 Jerry and Darlene Pielage
 Bob Siegfried
 Andrew and Anita Moerlein
 Carol Aufman

Kathy Decker
 Parker Lillie

Llanfair
 Rosemarie Libbert

Winter Park, Florida
 Rev. Sherwood Anderson
 1111 S. Lakemont Ave. #406
 Winter Park, Florida 32792

Our Church Staff
 Those struggling with loss; encourage them
 Hearts that earnestly seek God
 Families and loved ones of military personnel
 serving in harm's way
 People struggling financially; help them to
 remain hopeful
 Members and friends absent from our fellowship

FOR ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS OR CHANGES,
 PLEASE CONTACT

THE CHURCH OFFICE - (513) 751 - 0321
 EMAIL - SECRETARY@IMMANUELPRESBY.ORG

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Notice is hereby given of the calling of a meeting of the congregation of the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 3445 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary of the church following the 10:30 am worship service on Sunday, February 26, 2017.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

February 15:

5:30 p.m. - ECI Follow Up with John McKnight
 7:00 p.m. - Church Officer Training

February 23:

5:30 p.m. - Interfaith Panel

March 1:

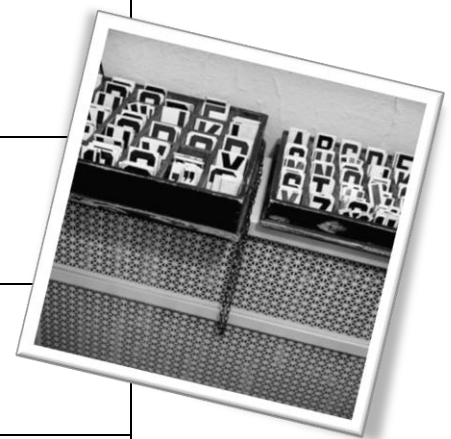
7:00 p.m. - Ash Wednesday Worship

March 5:

After church - Slusher/Jones Luncheon on Nepal

February Calendar + Birthdays

			1	2 Choir 7:30 p.m.	3	4
5 Sunday Service 10:30am Souper Bowl Sunday	6 David Erisman	7 Amalie Brewer	8	9 Choir 7:30 p.m.	10	11
12 Sunday Service 10:30am	13	14	15 5:00 p.m.ECI with John McKnight 7:00 p.m- Church Officer Training.	16 Choir 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Erika Slusher
19 Sunday Service 10:30am	20 Vernon Corbin	21 Session- 7:30 p.m.	22 David Brott Holly Windle	23 5:30 p.m.- Interfaith Panel Choir 7:30 p.m.	24	25 Julia Windle
26 Sunday Service 10:30am	27 Katherine Grace Dugan	28 Marcia Albright				



News of the Church

Pastor's Reading

List- Pastor Rich has set up a small library in the foyer or you can check out the link below to order some of the books. Also, check out organizations that are friends and share a similar ethos or DNA to IPC. Go to: <http://immanuelpresby.org/our-connections/partners/>



Prayer Pillows are still being made; if you are interested in helping make these, please contact Debbie Jones at 513-295-5772

Minister's Discretionary Fund

enables the pastor to assist members, friends and neighbors in need. Please consider making an extra gift to support this fund.



The Immanuel Guiding Team

(consisting of Emma Lou Hartkemeier, Michele Mansfield, Bill Smart, Erika Slusher, and Debbie Jones) are excited to extend invitations to the congregation to think creatively with them on experiments to invigorate community and engagement with others and our neighborhoods. More info to come soon. Questions? Contact Michele Mansfield.

Equal EXCHANGE: We are now offering Equal exchange/Fairly Traded Gourmet Coffee during our Coffee & Conversation time.



You can find out more information at: <http://equalexchange.coop/>

Enjoy! And if you are interested in purchasing any of this coffee that is mountain-grown by small farmers, it is offered by the Presbyterian Coffee Project - Community Fair Trade Buying Club through www.nku.edu/~longa/coffee/order.html

Flowers:

There is a new Flower Chart hanging on the bulletin board outside the Parlor. If you are interested in giving flowers for a Sunday worship, please sign your name and to whom they are for (in honor or in memory of a loved one, or just a special event or occasion.



CLIFTON YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

Interested? We have one for college students, one for 40 somethings. Contact Pastor Rich Jones: (513) 295-5818 or Rich.Jones@immanuelpresby.org



Clifton Market Opens

By now, you've probably heard that the Clifton Market is open. The Grand Opening and kickoff events occurred January 26-29. What a great thing for the Clifton community! Keller's IGA closed six years ago, and the property sat vacant. Three years ago, the former grocery store was a shell. Anything valuable to scrap metal thieves had been removed.

That has all changed. In early 2014, a group of volunteers with no money in the bank and no experience with grocery store operations, organized to open the store as a community-owned cooperative to get a full-service grocery store going again in Clifton. "This was about creating a sustainable economic engine for the neighborhood," said Adam Hyland, a Clifton Market board member. The site has been home to a grocery store operation since the 1930's. The board took elements of stores they liked from around the country and have incorporated them into the new Clifton Market. The store features a cheese station, salad bar, and sushi and deli counters. They will also have produce, beer and wine, household cleaning products, health and beauty products, baby food, and pet supplies. There will also be a café called The Busy Bee, inside the market. The store has a goal of sourcing 15 percent of products locally such as meats, soap, and vegetables. Congratulations to the volunteers and prayers for great success in this new neighborhood venture!

-Cincinnati Enquirer



Clifton Market on Ludlow Avenue is scheduled to open Sunday. Eighty-one jobs are being created with the opening of this new grocery co-op that was once home to Keller's IGA from 1939 to 2011.



The
Reflection
Immanuel
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Church

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