

*"...new organ cases harmonize
with the existing woodwork in the church."
Lynn Dobson*

VIEWS FROM INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH August 2010 Vol. 63, Issue 8

Presenting...The New Casework Design for the Joseph W. Schreiber Memorial Organ!

Esteemed organ designer, Mr. Lynn Dobson, President and Artistic Director of Dobson Pipe Organ Builders, Ltd. of Lake City, Iowa, proudly provided the design (*right*) to the IPC Session for their review and final approval at a called meeting of Session on July 20, 2010. After hearing of the acceptance of his design, Mr. Dobson commented,

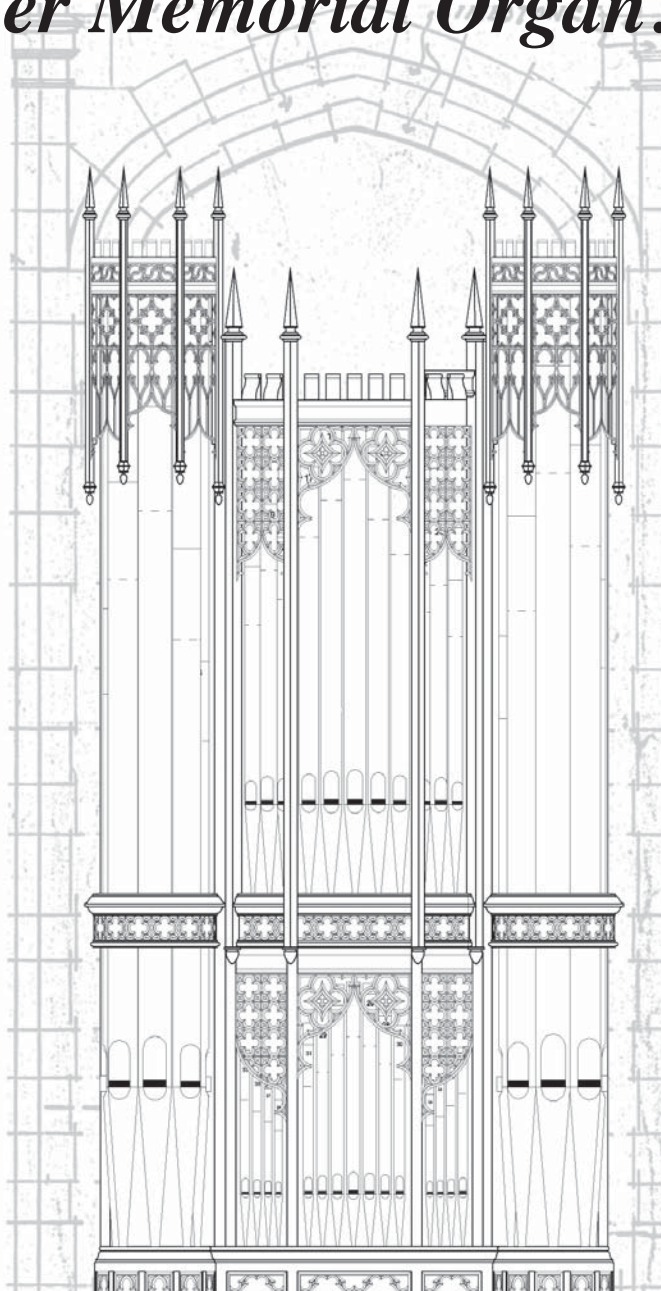
"The just approved case design for the new Independent Presbyterian Church's organ is a further refinement of my first preliminary drawings. This process further refined the scale of the decorative moldings, made the moldings identical in design to moldings already in the church's millwork, and finalized the geometric designs of the carvings above the tops of the pipes. These changes assure that the new organ cases harmonize with the existing woodwork in the church."

For over thirty years, Lynn Dobson has been designing organs for churches, abbeys, cathedrals, university chapels and music studios, private residences, and concert halls. An online exhibit of some of his drawings, "*Lynn A. Dobson: Drawings & Projects from 1974–2009*," can be accessed through the Dobson website, www.dobsonorgan.com.

Through the end of 2010, Dobson will be working closely with Andrew Hicks, IPC Deacon, long-term choir-member, and professional architect, of ArchitectureWorks in developing the detailed plans needed to prepare the sanctuary to receive the new organ. Physical work on the sanctuary will begin in January, 2011 with installation and final voicing of the new instrument continuing into 2012.

During renovation of the sanctuary in 2011, we will continue to worship at IPC at three Sunday Services in the Great Hall.

Rev. Bobbie Epting, Associate Pastor





The Rev. Dr. Conrad Sharps

"...to be silent, to remain still, to discern the presence of God."

LIVING IN SERVICE TO OTHERS...

SUGGESTED FOOD PANTRY ITEMS

- August 1
Breakfast Bars
- August 8
Oatmeal/Grits
- August 15
Macaroni & Cheese
- August 22
Juices
- August 29
Rice & Beans

- First Light Women's Shelter
Items for August
Canned or Powdered
Drinks/Snacks

The Sound of The Still

If you have ever watched an old war movie, try to recall the ceremony that takes place when a senior officer arrives on board a ship. A sailor with a small whistle or “pipe” plays a short but very distinct tune. In the British Navy this is actually an order called “*The Still*,” and it is intended to alert all sailors on deck to a brief period of silence as a form of respect. I’m not certain, but I believe that “The Still,” although used now in mostly ceremonial form, grew from a much more practical application of the sound of the pipes. Long before the use of public address systems and ear-piercing horns, the sound of “The Still” informed and, in fact, commanded sailors to take a moment “to be still,” to assess what was happening all around them and then act according to the emergency or situation at hand.

Perhaps “The Still” could also be understood as a spiritual discipline calling Christians to be silent, to remain still, to discern the presence of God. In many ways this is the purpose of a call to worship or a call to prayer. Although we are often tempted to dismiss these “calls” as largely ceremonial, we are wise to remember how significant a presence we seek to encounter in worship and prayer. As the Psalmist wrote: “Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.” (Psalm 95:6)

If you need a vision – a picture in your mind’s eye of why we might respond with stillness, respect and humble spiritual reflection to the presence of God, then read these words of the apostle John written from exile on the Island of Patmos:

“I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was someone ‘like a son of man,’ dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: ‘Do not be afraid, I am the First and the Last.’” (Revelation 1:12-17)

In the presence of God, one is humbled and still – ready to receive blessing, direction, correction, encouragement, whatever seems pleasing to God. Prayer and worship are times when we are called to reflect upon what God would have us see and understand all that is happening around us in order that we might respond according to God’s will to the situation at hand. Seeking to enter the presence of God is not ceremonial nor should it be driven by cultural convention. Rather, it is a time of responding to God’s summons – the command to be still, reverent and discerning.

Don’t let this day pass without hearing the call to “The Still.” God is present in your life, and how you respond must be grounded in worship and prayer.



The Main Event to be held at IPC

The Presbyteries of Sheppards and Lapsley and North Alabama are hosting the annual Main Event at IPC August 13 and 14. Saturday sessions include workshops in the areas of Christian Education, Officer Training and Administration, Mission/ Evangelism, Worship and Spirituality, and the Institute for Spiritual Leadership Formation. Keynote speaker Friday night and worship leader Saturday morning is Dr. Graham Standish, minister at Calvin Presbyterian Church and adjunct professor at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. For more information, contact the Presbytery office at 978-0320 or at psl@pslpcusa.org.

Upcoming Events at IPC

DEPARTMENTS

Worship

The Rev Dr. Conrad Sharps, *Pastor*,
933-1830

Music & Fine Arts

Dr. Jeff R. McLelland,
Director, Music and Fine Arts
933-3701

Education

Paul Romjue, *Director*,
Christian Education 933-3732

Cindy Coulter, *Director*,
Children's Ministries 933-3708

Janna Pennington, *Assistant Director*
Youth Ministries 933-3734

Congregational Care & Counseling

The Rev. Ms. Lucy Turner, *Associate Pastor; Director, Congregational Care*
933-3706

The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Pyburn
The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Wade
Counseling Associates
Dr. Pyburn: 933-3698
Dr. Wade: 933-3695

New Member Coordinator
Nancy Skinner, 933-3703

Community Ministries

The Rev. Ms. Susan Clayton, *Associate Pastor; Director, Community Ministries*,
933-3709
Dale Head, *Assistant Director, Community Ministries*, 933-3726

Finance

James Wooten, *Executive Director*,
IPC Foundation & Director, Finance,
933-3705

Stewardship & Development

The Rev. Ms. Bobbie Epting, *Associate Pastor; Director, Stewardship & Development*
933-3729

IPC Day School

Jason Turner, *Director, Day School*,
933-3687

Administration

Libby Kidd, *Director*,
Operations & Administration
933-3704

President of Congregation
Rupert Bodden, Jr. 942-8676

Vice-President of the Congregation
William W. Horton 419-5139

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**Photographs by Paul Romjue
Mason Fischer Photography
& Virginia Jones Photography**

Special Sunday School Class for Grades 4-6 in August

August 1 – 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
viewing the film *Remember the Titans*

August 8/15/22/29 – 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Recognizing Bullying and Gossiping
Room 107

Special Class For Parents of 4th, 5th, & 6th Graders:

Sunday, August 22 10:00 a.m. Room 306
Recognizing Bullying and Gossiping
with Dr. Dale Wisely

Partners' IPC Fall Festival:

Save the Date!

Sunday, October 24, 2010

Everyone is invited to join the fun!

The Partner's Committee is proud and excited to announce plans for this year's IPC Fall Festival. The Festival will be held on Sunday, October 24, at the Children's Fresh Air Farm. Events will include live music, dinner, a petting zoo for the kids, a bonfire and more. More details and registration forms will be available soon!

Lunch Bunch August Adventure!

The 4th Quarter Lunch Bunch continues celebrating our glorious summer with lunch at **Oscar's at the Museum**, a new restaurant located in The Birmingham Museum of Art. The group will eat lunch on **Tuesday, August 24, at Noon**. Call Jeannine Usher (933-3694) to place your reservation, then meet us at Oscar's at the Museum at Noon on the 24th!

Attention All Bridge Players!

Alan Drennen has offered to lead another Tweeners Bridge class this Fall, where he'll teach the New Convention, beginning September 20. Beginners, if you're interested in learning the wonderful game of Bridge, we hope to schedule a beginners class within the next few months, depending on the level of interest. For more information about either of these classes, contact Jeannine Usher at 933-3694.

STAIR: September

STAIR's first day of the 2010-2011 school year is Monday, September 27.

Will you be there? Our goal is to have 24 students each from Gibson (Monday-Wednesday) and Whatley (Tuesday-Thursday) Schools. That means 96 weekly tutors, at least 15 substitute tutors, snack servers each day, Christmas elves, family dinner helpers, and more. STAIR has developed quite a good reputation in the schools we serve. Last year we had a waiting list of students because we can only accept a student for whom we have tutors. ***Don't leave anybody out. You can make a difference. Come share the joy.*** Contact Evelyn Puckett with questions.

Email: stair@ipc-usa.org. Office: 933-3684. Cell: 531-5565.

Holiday Houses in August??

Plans are underway for this year's IPC Holiday House Tour December 11 and 12 under the chairmanship of **Amy Morse** and **Beth Adams**. Homes scheduled for the 61st annual tour include those of Brownie and Barrie Evans, Pat and Billy Hiden, Libby Lassiter and David Ball, and IPC members Ellen and Jim Walker and Frances and Miller Gorrie's guest house.

Volunteers are needed to help with this project to benefit the Children's Fresh Air Farm and other designated programs. Contact Amy at 870-3728 or Beth at 871-9570 if you are able to help with this weekend event. If you have questions, please call Betsy Middlebrooks at 933-3731 or email her at bmiddlebrooks@ipc-usa.org.

LETTERS HOME FROM CAMP



Photograph by Susan Clayton

BELL (*Building Educated Leaders for Life*) Summer Learning Program

An outreach mission of IPC

June 28 - July 30, 2010

IPC's Summer Learning Program at the Children's Fresh Air Farm began June 28. IPC is partnering with the BELL (*Building Educated Leaders for Life*) Accelerated Summer Learning Program, founded in Boston and now operating in several cities around the country. The program features a morning of academic classes (reading, writing, math) and afternoons of enrichment activities (music, dance, drama, art & science, as well as recreational activities, Christian-focused bible study, and worship in the Farm's chapel.) Fridays are for field trips (Birmingham Museum of Art, the McWane Center, Jones Valley Urban Farms).

Following are a series of "Letters home from camp" written by Gini Williams, Program Director, during IPC's Summer Learning Program at the Children's Fresh Air Farm.

WEEK ONE...

Dear Church Family,

Camp is really starting out strong. We have had two full days of getting to know each other, and these children are absolutely precious, and I am fully confident that we have the right teaching team.

Our church family is very much in evidence, and I think all of our IPC volunteers are benefitting from the time spent with these children. The children relish individual attention.

In only two days, we have already tested the children

for our assessment data, had swimming evaluations, soccer drills, tennis lessons, Dinosaur Day with the McWane Center, crafts, playtime with the IPC Youth, as well as the literacy and math school work. Our days start with breakfast, and then we have a devotional, raise the flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Susan Clayton leads chapel every afternoon, and there is prayer throughout the day. Yesterday, Susan read part of the Creation story from Genesis, and the children had fun naming the different types of animals God created. We sing lots of songs and hymns for children. They are enjoying a nice lunch and snack every day as well.



As I write this, it is almost lunch time on Wednesday.

This afternoon we will decorate garden stakes, swim, and have the Jones Valley Urban Farm come and introduce the children to their garden plots. The rest of the week includes Bible study, Spanish, more crafts and swimming and sports and singing, and some much needed quiet time in the Library. We will take a field trip to the Birmingham- Southern Ecoscape and Museum, and will picnic on the quad. I will talk to the children about the importance of college. It is my goal that they will have to decide during our summer learning program that they will be future college graduates.

We often remind the children of our central theme that ...*"The earth is the LORD'S and everything in it."* I am **working to keep the love of Christ at the center of every minute of every day.** In today's devotional we spoke about Paul writing to the Corinthians and showing them "the most excellent way." I will encourage excellence in every way as I represent Independent Presbyterian Church.

In closing, let me say that your love and prayers and support mean the world to me, and are very effective. You are providing these children with a wonderful experience.

Lots of love from camp, *Gini*



BELL Summer Learning Program

WEEK TWO...



Dear Church Family,
Last Friday was a special day for our program. Our field trip to Birmingham- Southern's Ecoscape and museum was a lot of fun, and it was important to show the children a college campus. After a picnic on the lawn, we came back to the CFAF for special time with several of our IPC Grandpals. We swam and played and had a great

visit from a variety of animals from the Birmingham Zoo. This Friday we will breakfast at IPC, go to the Avondale Library to get a card and check out a book, and visit the Birmingham Museum of Art. We will finish the week with an afternoon of fun with the IPC Youth group.

There are many delightful aspects of camp, including the way this church family has taken ownership of the program. I have many helpers. The IPC Youth, both as a group and individually, volunteer faithfully, giving up their cherished summers to brave the heat, bugs, and sticky little scholars. They become climbing toys for the campers, giving freely with hugs and piggy back rides. They help with organization and discipline, and they answer my every request with a quick, "Yes, ma'am." They even ask for more work, and they do all of this with smiles on their faces. Parents, you should be very proud. I am thrilled that the campers get to be around your children.

BELL also has an immeasurable benefit in the relationship that Evelyn Puckett and so many of you have built through the STAIR program. This relationship has been crucial to BELL, as have Evelyn and her helper, Lewanna Robinson.

It is hard to describe the wide variety of children we have at camp, each with an abundance of talents but a world full



of challenges. I do not want to generalize or oversimplify, as they are all so very unique. However, there is one word that covers each and every one of them: **deserving.**

Please continue to lift these wonderful children in your prayers.

Lots of love in Christ,

Gini

photographs by IPC member Virginia Jones

WEEK THREE...

Dear Church Family-

Week three has been really busy, and so very much fun. The children are used to their routines, and they enjoy them. They like knowing what to expect, and looking forward to play and swim time. They are getting exposed to so many things. This week we have made clay pots, learned a praise dance, spent lots of time singing, taken tennis and swim lessons, enjoyed Bible school, and spent a whole lot of time on academics.



The time with IPC Youth continues to be a highlight, and we learn something special about science from the McWane Center, about the garden from Jones Valley Urban Farm, as well as take Spanish every week.

I think we are making great progress in getting to really know our campers and some of the issues they face. We know a few who don't get enough to eat at home, a few who have a close relative in jail, and many whose family is not intact. We are consistently explaining how to make a better choice, how to deal with anger, and explaining the way of love as Paul defined so perfectly in his first letter to the Corinthians. I think they are beginning to understand that love truly is the most excellent way. I always try to change a misbehaving child's anger into a smile.

We set up dominos and showed how something good could run through a group, and then something bad could as well. We removed a domino from the middle and showed how they could stop bad trends. I look everyday to find new ways to explain this.

I wish you could have seen their faces when our Bible ladies presented them with their beautifully wrapped Bible story books. They have gorgeous name plates written in calligraphy by Mary Ann Morrow. The inscription reads:

"Presented with love to:

Camper's Name

By

Independent Presbyterian Church
BELL Summer Learning Program

June 28 - July 30, 2010"

That is how I think of this whole camp - *presented with love by Independent Presbyterian Church.* Thanks to all of you for this wonderful experience.

Lots of love in Christ, *Gini*

From the Music Suite...

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN THE CHOIR!

Ever thought of singing in the choir? Now is a great time to start. The IPC Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 11, and we would love for you to join us. The Westminster Choir (grades 7-12), the Te Deum Choir (grades 3-6) and the IPC Junior Choir (grades K-3) will begin on Wednesday, September 8. Please call the Music Office for more information at 933-3700.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT EVENTS FOR THE FALL

September 26 – IPC Choir Golf Tournament,

Highland Park Golf Course

October 3 – Choir Dedication Sunday

(all choirs at the 11:00 service)

NOVEMBER ORGAN RECITAL SERIES, 4:00 p.m.

November 7 Ludger Lohmann, University of Stuttgart,
Germany

November 14 Jeff McLelland and the IPC Choir

November 21 Alan Morrison, Curtis Institute, Philadelphia, PA

November 21 Christ the King Hymn Festival (both services)

December 5 IPC Choir Christmas Concert, 4:00 p.m.

December 11 Te Deum Holiday House Concert, 2:00 p.m.

December 23 Westminster Choir Christmas Tour

December 24 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, 4:00 & 6:00 p.m.



**The 5th Annual IPC Choir Golf
Tournament is upon us!**

**“What’s this?” you may ask.
Read on!**

IPC Choir Golf Tournament Highland Park Golf Course September 26, 2010

About the Tournament The format will be a 4-person scramble. After the tee shot, all four golfers hit from the location of the best ball in the foursome. In order to give everyone a chance to win, handicaps will be used to determine a final net score for each foursome. The registration table at the Highland Park Course will open at 11:00. Golfers will be given a box lunch, and they will be assigned a cart. A maximum of 4 mulligans can be purchased for \$5 each. Practice at the range will be available until 12:45, when all golfers will assemble for last minute instructions. Play will commence with a shotgun start at 1:00. Women will hit from the forward tees, and men will hit from the back tees.

At the end of play, everyone is invited to a 19th-Hole party, during which prizes will be awarded. There will be first, second, and third place cash awards for the foursomes with the lowest net scores. Other prizes will be given for closest-to-the-pin, longest drive, and straightest drive.

WHERE'S THERE'S A WILL... *There is a way...* *for those who love you to know what you want.*

Through a will, or the legal documents that outline your “intentions” relative to what you would like to have happen in the future with your assets, your family and loved ones will have directions. If you are interested in not only taking care of your loved ones, but also in providing for ongoing or new initiatives to be possible at IPC in the years to come, please contact

either Jim Wooten, Executive Director of the IPC Foundation, or Rev. Bobbie Epting, Associate Pastor for Stewardship and Development, at the church at 933.1830 or through the IPC website, www.ipc-usa.org.



IPC Highlanders!

(Young Adults)

Join us at Jackson's
Bar & Bistro in
Homewood's SoHo Square



6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 26th

At our gathering, we'll let you know some of our fun upcoming plans, and you can reconnect with old friends... and meet some new ones, too! If you like, hang around afterwards and enjoy dinner together in Jackson's loft!

RSVP: Lochrane Smith - 871-0094

News from Adult Education

HIGHLANDERS: A newly revamped Highlanders class for young professionals (married or single) ages 23-30 is planning a social event in August. If you are interested in this group, please contact Cindy Shaw at 933-3693 or at cshaw@ipc-usa.org.

HIGHLANDERS will begin church school classes September 12 with an especially dynamic teacher, Dr. Joe Scrivner, Department of Religion, Samford University!

SEEKERS (FORMERLY PARENTING 101)

Another class undergoing changes is the Seekers class, formerly known as Parenting 101. This group meets Sundays at 10:00 in room 304 and is studying the Sunday lectionary and the Great Preachers video series. The fall class for this group is *The Four-Dimensional Jesus*, which will be taught by Burch and Jim Barger and Dr. Tom Rains, with Jim Bussian serving as a substitute.



Making Marriage Last a Lifetime

The Engaged/Newlywed group has been meeting on Wednesday evenings in the homes of Lisa and John Burton, Anne and Jim Bussian, and Carrie and Hardwick Walthall as they explore the book *Making Love Last a Lifetime*. This weekly class will be repeated each summer to include those who recently have become engaged or have gotten married during the previous year. Carrie Walthall says, "*This is such a fun group, and as leaders, we are getting as much out of the class as those who are newly married.*"

IPC's Partners &
Lauren & Conrad Sharps
invite you to...

Partners Dinner

Thursday, August 12th

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

at The Capri on Caldwell
Condominiums
on the Plaza Level
1300 27th Place South

*Come join us on August 12th...
enjoy good company and the
beautiful view at The Capri!*

Babysitting available at IPC!

RSVP: Hannah Beth Cobb - 504-4290
or Paula Baird - 871-0245



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fall Grace Groups Registration Begins September 12 **Grace Groups Meet October 10 - November 20, 2010**

Our busy Fall season begins soon! We wanted to let you know dates for Fall Grace Groups...and hope that you'll be able to join a Grace Group and take part in October and November. Registration begins Sunday, September 12, and the Grace Groups themselves will meet **October 10 – November 20**.

Cindy Shaw is currently seeking new Grace Group leaders. Please contact Cindy (933-3696 or cshaw@ipc-usa.org) if you have an interest in serving as a Grace Group leader or if you have any questions about our Fall Grace Groups.



**Christ is our center.
Faith is our focus.**