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[www.ibcfrankfort.com](http://www.ibcfrankfort.com)

February 18, 2018



## ***Children's Music & Activities***

Karen Dungan and Susan Laurenson are working with our children's choir on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:00. If you have a pre-school through 4<sup>th</sup> grader, they should be involved in this great time of music and learning. They do many interesting things including music, games, various instruments, and singing joyfully as they learn. Both Karen and Susan have worked with our children's choir before and I want to personally thank them for doing this during the interim as we work to fill our children's and youth positions here at IBC.

The younger youth choir is working on a new musical entitled, "Unselfie" which focuses on the value of being unselfish in a seemingly selfish world. The music is upbeat and clever and the drama revolves around a cell phone app called, "Unselfie". As the kids talk about this app and practice using it they find that it allows them to take as many "selfies" as they like, but they can only share those that stem from unselfish motives. Through the course of the musical they learn what it means to focus on the needs of others and help folks in need. If you have a youth or you are a youth that would like to be a part of this, we are meeting in the choir room each Wednesday night from 6:30 to 7:00. We would love to have you participate as we strive to learn more of what God wants from us through music and devotion. BTW, one of the comments I've heard already is, "This song is way cool." Come and join us!

## ***Chuck's Column***

I guess I have been preaching an inclusive gospel now for well over a decade. I began to make the shift from an exclusive understanding of Christianity to an inclusive one not long after I came here as your pastor. I am more convinced today of its urgency than ever before.

The state of our country today, both religiously and politically is the consequence of exclusive Christianity and exclusive, partisan politics. What has it produced? Meanness, divisiveness, and arrogance. One group demonizes another group. Christian exclusiveness and political partisanship breed attitudes and feelings of elitism, exceptionalism, classism, and egoism. We have the truth, all of it, and if you want to be saved, if you want to be right, then you will join our group, you will believe what we believe, you will do it our way.

Until a sizable minority of people (we don't even need a majority, just a "remnant") realize that we are all children of God by virtue of being alive, that we are all connected, that we all belong to one family, regardless of our many differences, there is not much hope that we will become a more just, peace-seeking, and compassionate people. Richard Rohr says in his most recent book, "Unless God's seers [visionaries, prophets, teachers, religious leaders; and I would add, political leaders, educators, journalists, and business leaders] can begin to make this shift, there is no way that God is going to be able to 'save the world.'"

What Rohr means by "save the world" is obviously very different than what Christian exclusivists mean when they use this phrase. Saving the world is not about evacuating out of this world into another world. As Jesus taught it is about the kingdom of God, the kingdom of righteousness/justice and peace coming here and now into all those places and people, communities and societies, where love of power, control,

money, possessions, and partisan loyalties dominate. It's about the loving and merciful will of God being done on earth as it is in heaven.

Clearly it is not our sense of connection to others that prevails today, but our disconnection – from God, from each other, from the world, and from our deepest and truest self, the self that bears God's image and is infused with God's life (Gen. 1:27; 2:7). It is this disconnection that is fueling so much hatred toward the undocumented, LGBTQ persons, Muslims, and people of different religious or political beliefs in general.

I believe an inclusive gospel is the hope of the world. Paul puts it this way, "For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future – all belong to you, and you belong to Christ [the cosmic Christ], and Christ belongs to God" (1 Cor. 3:21-23). We all belong to God and everyone else. God and everyone else belong to us. We are one family. Everyone and everything is connected. I pray and hope more of us will come to believe this fundamental truth and make serious efforts to live it.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Chuck

### ***WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP SUPPER***

**6:00 p.m.**

**Adults: \$4.00 Children: \$3.00**

**Maximum per family \$10.00**

Feb. 21: Tacos, fixings and dessert

Feb. 28: Pizza, fixings and dessert

March 7: Chicken, fixings and dessert

### ***Bereaved Church Family:***

\*Sherri Henley in the death of her former  
Mother-in-law.

\*Sara Early in the death of her father.

## **Crafting Weekend** **February 16-17**

**Congratulations** to Roger and Patty Crittenden on the birth of their grandson Roger Levi Tipton on February 1 at 1:30 am. Levi weighed 8 pounds 13 ounces and both Mom and baby are doing well.

### ***Small Group Study***

If there is interest, Gena Clark will facilitate a small group book study and discussion of, *Women Food and God: An Unexpected Path to Almost Everything* by Geneen Roth on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30.



Roth's approach to healthy eating is the same as any addiction--it is an activity to avoid feeling emotions. She powerfully urges readers to pay attention to what they truly need--and it usually cannot be found in a supermarket. She provides seven basic guidelines for eating and shares reassuring, practical advice that has over the years helped thousands of women break free from their unhealthy attraction to food.

If you think you might like to participate or want more information contact Gena at 502-871-5047. Gena is flexible as to the time the group meets.



### **Bus Ministry**

February 18 Greg Lawson  
502-487-1091

February 25 Bruce Dungan  
502-320-1687

March 4 J. T. O'Connell  
502-545-3016

## **Deacon of the Week Schedule:**

February 18 Mike Hatcher  
223-3676

February 25 Kay Osborne  
875-2194

March 4 Meredith Shouse  
320-6740

## **A big thanks**

- For your support and heartfelt prayers as I went through my 18<sup>th</sup> surgery. You can't have too many friends and all of you mean so much to me. *Gratefully, Debbie Young*
- The Family of Algin Roberts would like to express their gratitude for all the kindness shown in the past sickness and death of Algin. He is sorely missed. *Shirley & Children*

**Thank You** Immanuelites! You made the 2018 Soup-er Bowl Lunch & Service Auction a great success. *Mission & Evangelism Team*



## *The Gathering*

**Hosted by Koinonia Class**

Sunday, February 18, 9:15 a.m.  
Breakfast-type food will be served.

## **IRC ACTIVITIES OVER THE YEARS**

Since we began tracking the kinds of assistance given to our Infant Resource Center clients in 2000, I thought you might be interested in the overall assistance picture for the past 18 years. As our assistance needs have grown, we have added items along the way as our funding has allowed. For example, although we assisted with cribs in a limited fashion beginning in 2001, we did not get into full swing with this type of assistance until approximately 2003. We have been fortunate to receive adequate funding to expand services to include items like car seats (*starting in 2012*), and pack 'n plays, table booster seats and bouncy seats (*starting in 2015*), when it became evident that this need was not being met elsewhere in the community. Other items such as clothing have been eliminated from our offerings because there were a number of other places in the community which offered the same services. The following gives the total number items in each category given out since our early beginnings.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Total # Given</b>
Diapers	2,163
Infant Supplies ( <i>wash, lotion, wipes, etc.</i> )	7,781
Cloth Goods ( <i>clothing, sheets, blankets, etc.</i> )	25,069
Formula	494
Baby Cribs	530
Crib Mattresses	484
Car Seats ( <i>added 2012</i> )	126
Pack 'n Plays ( <i>added 2015</i> )	23
P'nP mattresses ( <i>added</i> )	22

2015)			
Table (added 2015)	Booster	Seats	13
Bouncy 2015)	Seats	(added	16

As pointed out in the previous IRC Update, although we considered adding other items such as swings to the list of items we provide, we ultimately determined that it would be more beneficial to the people we serve to offer larger quantities of certain items, particularly diapers. Currently, we are providing twice as many diapers per client as we have in the past. The impact of this increase is yet to be determined. Since 2002, when we began tracking itemized expenditures for the IRC, we have spent \$124,536.36 on client supplies. This figure does not include office supplies donated by the church or other operating expenses.

Additionally, we will continue to work cooperatively with other community resources such as the Frankfort Police Department and the Simon House, and with organizations such as the Linus Project which generously supplies a good number of our blankets.

We have averaged helping 86 families and 100 children per year. None of this would have been possible without your compassion, generosity and faithful participation in this ministry. On behalf of all those we have served and those we have yet to serve, thank you! *Anna Mayne*, IRC Director

## ***Opportunities at IBC***

### **Friday, February 16**

6:00 pm Crafting

### **Saturday, February 17**

9:00 am Crafting

### **Sunday, February 18**

9:15 am The Gathering followed by Bible Study

10:30 am Worship

### **Monday, February 19**

9:30 am CCRTA

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

### **Wednesday, February 21**

10:00 am Prayer Bible Study

5:30 pm Mission Committee Meeting

6:00 pm Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm Prayer & Devotion & Children/Youth Music & Activities

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

### **Sunday, February 25**

9:15 am Bible Study

10:30 am Worship

### **Monday, February 26**

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

### **Wednesday, February 28**

10:00 am Prayer Bible Study

6:00 pm Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm Prayer & Devotion & Children/Youth Music & Activities

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir