

We are a church with one mission: to grow followers of Jesus through grateful worship, genuine community, and generous service to each other and our world. We believe by loving God and loving people we can have an impact that really matters, and would like to tell you more about that. If you are interested in being a part of what God is doing with us, or just have some questions, **fill out the contact card** or ask the person next to you. **Please feel free to call or email too if you have any questions.**

FAMILY NEWS AND NOTES

Indiana church of Christ
225 East Pike
Indiana, PA, 15701

E-mail:
indianacofc@gmail.com

Website:
indianapachurch.org

Evangelist
C J Moffett
985-807-7593

GOD'S FAMILY TIMES

BIBLE CLASSES
Building—9:30 am Sunday

WORSHIP
Building—10:30 am Sunday

GROWTH GROUPS
Grose's -- 6 p.m. Sunday
Tonkin's -- 6 p.m. Sunday

BIBLE CLASSES
Building—7 pm Wednesday

Dinner before Class: THIS Wednesday September 27th at 6 p.m.
Last chance to sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend and what you will bring to share.

Family Covered Dish Dinner: Sunday October 8th after services at the Stutzman's. It will be in the renovated "barn". Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend so that an estimate of the number of tables needed can be determined.

Ladies' Class Tuesday October 12th and 26th at 1 p.m. at the Building

Congregational Meeting: Thursday October 19th at 7 p.m. at the building. This is later in the month due to scheduling conflicts!

Nathan Irwin and family will be in Indiana October 6-12 on furlough from North Africa. Nathan will be sharing their mission during class and services on Sunday the 8th and Wednesday the 11th. If you have any specific questions about their mission or would like to visit one-on-one please let Doug or Paula know.

Support for our Betikara lamb, Toavina, for September & October is being collected. Please give your donations **directly** to Sally Duriez

Pictures for a new directory will be taken in January!

<u>Happy Birthday</u>	<u>Happy Anniversary</u>
9/24 Sharon Yurky	10/24 Jason & Jeanette Bracken
9/25 Joyce Jewart	
9/27 Pattv Shank & Henlev Grose	

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

TS:
Family are now in North Africa. Pray for peace and protection, for spiritual and wants and for many connections with others God has called there. Pray for personal engagement into their new communities and for all the logistics that need to begin a new life in a foreign place.

FAMILY MATTERS

Indiana

Church of Christ

724.463.7240

September 24, 2017

The Fallacy of Spiritual Gifts--God uses weak people. JEFF CHRISTOPHERSON

Brett and Noelle are busy penciling in 200 dots in the spiritual gifts inventory they've been given by their local church. Nervously concentrating, Brett and Noelle work their way to question 200, hand in their sheets, and anxiously wait until next Sunday to discover their spiritual gifts. Next Sunday, they reconvene and eagerly open their manila envelopes. It seems that Brett has the gift of administration. Noelle has the gift of service.

Coincidentally, it turns out that Brett is a parts manager at the VW dealership and Noelle is on the cleaning staff at a large assisted living community.

Uninspired and disenchanted, Brett and Noelle trudge somberly toward the parking lot. It looks like 'spiritual service' at church is going to look a whole lot like their current jobs. Soon, Brett is counting the offering each week, while Noelle works on a rotation in the nursery. Are spiritual gifts really meant to work like this?

Loss of Market Share

Since the 1970s, much of the Evangelical world was losing market share to a charismatic phenomenon that was sweeping the world. New churches emerged offering worship designed to engage the emotions of a believer. For many, this held great appeal when compared with dueling piano/organ combinations separated by an arm-waving, hymn conductor.

The preaching seemed more free-flowing, more alive. With a constituency that was growing bored with a starched-collared, three points and a poem, semi-robotic approach to preaching, many found these changes refreshing. But the pièce de résistance of the charismatic wave was an emphasis on spiritual gifts. This charismatic trademark offered something that seemed truly spiritual to many—something that transported their dreary spiritual existences to a higher, unexplainable dimension.

Evangelical Adoption

What Did Evangelicals Lose?

In worship and preaching the Evangelical Church gained a great deal. But when it comes to spiritual gifts we gained almost nothing. We simply labeled acts that fit a person's natural gifts and predispositions as "spiritual gift." We designed tests that produced objective data to influence congregants toward church-centric service within their comfort zones. The church created bite-sized, organizational, volunteer slots that matched people to these roles. It seems that we may have adopted the world's operating system and infused spiritual gifts into the normative paradigm of our culture.

The biggest, the greatest, the richest, the prattiest, the strongest, these are the values that have driven