

## About Us

Contributed by IPC  
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About Us | Pastors | History | Vision | Library Indianola Presbyterian Church is a community of inquiry, prayer, and action. At IPC you will find an open and questioning spirit, a wide range of spiritual engagement, and a commitment to social justice in the world. The congregation is rich in ethnic and socioeconomic diversity, coming from virtually every walk of life. We come together because of shared spiritual needs and concerns about how God works in our lives. We are a community that emphasizes the ministry of lay persons. We seek to be a place where ministry to families, youth singles, university students, staff, and faculty members flourishes. Come see and feel the Indianola difference! Indianola Presbyterian Pastoral Staff

Rev. Dr. Sydney V. (Skip) Jackson, Ph.D. [Rev. Jackson retired effective Sept. 30, 2018 after 18 years as IPC's pastor.]

Skip Jackson was called as Senior Pastor & Head of Staff at Indianola in 2000. He received his B.S. in 1970 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he majored in Chemistry. Awarded a National Science Foundation fellowship for graduate study, he attended the University of Maryland where he received a Ph.D. in Nuclear Chemistry in 1975, focusing on gamma-ray spectroscopy and nuclear decay scheme studies. He then worked at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, NM, for 12 years—first as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Nuclear Physics, then as a Staff Scientist in Laser Physics, and finally for eight years as a Staff Scientist in Energy Systems Analysis. He left Los Alamos in 1988 to study for the ministry. He received his Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1991 and was awarded the Martin Dwellle Kneeland Preaching Prize and the Alumni Fellowship. Prior to coming to Indianola, Rev. Jackson served for nine years as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, OR. While there he also served on the Council of Cascades Presbytery and chaired the presbytery's Committee on Ministry in Higher Education. Rev. Jackson has served on the Council of the Scioto Valley Presbytery and as moderator of the presbytery's Committee on Ministry in Higher Education. He is a member of the University Interfaith Association at OSU. Skip has pursued continuing education in preaching, writing for worship, hymn writing, worship renewal, and contemporary spirituality. In 2001 he led the first "Mardi Gras Sunday" Jazz Worship Service at IPC, and the church has held a Jazz Service on the Sunday before lent each year since then.

Rev. Dr. Susan Warrener Smith, Ph.D. (Rev. Smith retired effective August 31, 2009. In the fall of 2011, Rev. Smith was named Associate Pastor Emerita.)

Susan Warrener Smith has been Associate Pastor at Indianola since 1996. She received her B.A. from Boston University where she majored in History of Art, and she received her M.A. in the same subject from the University of Michigan. She then received her Ph.D. in Theological and Religious Studies from Drew University where she concentrated in medieval theology and monastic spirituality. Prior to coming to Indianola, Rev. Smith served as Director of Christian Education and then as Temporary Supply for Congregational Nurture at First Presbyterian and Trinity Church in South Orange, NJ. She also served as Temporary Supply for Congregational Nurture, Director of the Kilburn Resource Center, and Christian Education consultant in the Presbytery of Newark. In addition, she taught religion as Adjunct Professor of Religious Studies at Seton Hall University. Rev. Smith has published numerous articles in the Cistercian Studies Quarterly and has presented at the International Medieval Studies Congress. In the Presbytery of Scioto Valley she has served on the Division of Care of Churches and served as moderator of the Worship Committee. She is currently serving on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and manages the labyrinth owned by the presbytery and synod. She served for many years as a board member of the Interfaith Center for Peace and at present is a member of the University Interfaith Association at OSU. She is a member of the Columbus chapter of the Torch Club and recently delivered a paper there entitled "Bernard of Clairvaux and Twelve-Step Spirituality." Rev. Dr. Olive Haynes, D.Min. - Parish Associate

(Rev. Olive Haynes passed away on Sunday, August 22, 2010. Her obituary is posted below.)

The Reverend Dr. Olive Haynes served as Minister of Mission at IPC from 1995 until her retirement in 2005. The granddaughter of two of the founding members of Indianola Presbyterian Church, she was involved with IPC at a very young age. Dr. Haynes received her Bachelors and Masters degrees from the Ohio State University in television and broadcasting and spent part of her career working in Public Television, including the local WOSU station. She returned to school to earn a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a D.Min. from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. During her career in ministry, Dr. Haynes served congregations in Ohio, Illinois and San Diego, where she became very involved with AIDS ministry and helped establish two homes in California to care for those stricken with the disease. Along with her work with AIDS patients, Olive served the mission fields of Mexico, Africa and China in the areas of healthcare. At Indianola, Olive initiated the annual Christmas Alternative Gift Market in 1996, and it has happened every year since then. She also served as a trustee for Medical Benevolence Foundation (M.B.F.) for many years and was a driving force in arranging for the international meeting of the M.B.F. that was held at IPC in 2002. Rev. Dr. Olive D. Haynes (Oct. 2, 1930 - August 22, 2010) (posted 8/24/10)

The Rev Dr. Olive D. Haynes died August 22, 2010 at Riverside Hospital following a short illness. She was born October 2, 1930 in Baltimore, MD to John and Mary M. Haynes. At age 5 she moved to Columbus to live with paternal grandparents, Harry and Mary Olive Haynes. She is survived by a brother, Charles Haynes and her niece, Sharon Bell (husband, George Bell).

Rev Haynes was a graduate of North High School, received BA and MA degrees in Radio-Television Speech and Production from The Ohio State University, her Master of Divinity in Homiletics from Princeton Theological Seminary, and in 1986 received her Doctor of Ministry degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

In her senior year of High School, Olive joined the staff of the Columbus Public Library, working at the Clintonville and Beechwood Branches. In addition to being Assistant Librarian, she did considerable art work, did a weekly broadcast on WCOL-Radio, and wrote the library column for the Clintonville Booster. In 1956 she joined Cy Tandy Advertising Agency as a writer, assisting with art and TV production. In 1957 she went to work for WOSU-Radio and TV as a copywriter, producer and on-air talent. She remained for 13 years until going to seminary.

Rev Haynes pastored churches in St. Marys and Spencerville, OH, from 1973-1980; and Marion, Illinois, 1980-1987. From 1988 to 1995 she served as Associate Pastor for Mission of the Solana Beach Presbyterian Church in San Diego, CA. Olive's mission work included establishing two AIDS homes and healthcare missions in Mexico, Africa, and China. From 1995 until her death, Olive was a Parish Associate at the Indianola Presbyterian Church in Columbus, OH.

An arts-and-crafts person, Olive had an agent in California and sold her work at a large mall. She participated in numerous shows in Columbus and sold her creations at stores in Columbus and other parts of Ohio and other states.

A memorial service will be held at Indianola Presbyterian Church on Friday, September 10, 2010 at 11 am. In lieu of flowers, Rev Haynes suggested that donations be given to Indianola Presbyterian Church, 1970 Waldeck Ave., Columbus, OH, 43201, or The Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL, 36104

The History of Indianola Presbyterian Church On July 4, 1909, the first service of what was to become Indianola Presbyterian Church was held in a tent pitched on a lot on the northeast corner of Fifteenth and Indianola Avenues. In November of that year, the Presbytery of Columbus granted permission for the organization of IPC, with 118 charter member constituting the congregation.

After seven years of holding services in a house, the congregation built the main building of the present church at the intersection of Iuka, Waldeck and Eighteenth Avenues. On September 17, 1916, the congregation marched to the first service in its new building in a procession headed by a fife and drum corps.

IPC grew steadily until it became the second largest Presbyterian church in Columbus, after Broad Street Presbyterian, with over 1400 members at mid-century. To accommodate the large membership and its many programs, in 1956 the congregation built Thompson Hall, dedicated "to the memory of the Reverend W.O. Thompson, D.D., President of The Ohio State University, 1899-1925, Moderator of the General Assembly, 1926, one of the founders of this Church."

Indianola Presbyterian Vision Statement  
we commit ourselves:

Responding to God's love and leading in Christ,

- to be in the creative center, offering an alternative to empty secularism and to religious rigidity.
  - to grow in our relationship with God through prayer, study, and intentional spirituality.
  - to praise God with hearts and minds, grounding ourselves in scripture and prayer, using the full range of the arts, in an exciting blend of the best of traditional and new.
  - to be a family of love, respect, and reconciliation in the face of the world's suspicions and divisions.
  - to fearlessly search for God's truth casting aside fearful clinging to partial truths.
  - to be an inclusive community that stands with each other on the journey of faith, celebrating, encouraging, empowering and honoring children and families, single people, and the aged.
  - to work to bring about God's justice and shalom in our daily activities, in the university community, our neighborhoods, and the world.
  - to invite others to be part of this exciting community of faith, that they might know the joy of life in Christ. Confessing our weakness, uncertainties, and failures, celebrating our heritage and the gifts God's Spirit gives us now, thankful for the empowering grace of Christ, we act in the confidence that Christ leads us into a wonderful future.
- Adopted by Session - January 15, 1997