

JANUARY 2022

at Ingomar Church

A quick look at what's new and exciting this month for church friends and family

A World Changing Christmas Gift of Water!

Giving the Gift of Clean Water

One-half of our Christmas offering has been designated to fund the gift of clean, safe water for the children of Ramula Odowa Secondary School in Nyakach, Kenya

Thank you for partnering with us to provide this wonderful Christmas gift!



Since 2011 Ingomar Living Waters, a ministry of Ingomar Church, has been bringing the gift of clean water to the world. There are 785 million people throughout the world who lack access to clean water, and Ingomar Living Waters continues to work diligently to change that.

At Christmas time 2020, Ingomar Church designated one-half of the Christmas offering to bring life-giving water to Subuku Village in Kenya. The only water source for this village was a contaminated, rain-fed pond, that is miles away. Ingomar Church rose to the occasion by giving the gift of clean water to this village.

In 2021, Ingomar Church again designated one-half of the Christmas offering to provide the gift of clean water — this time to the children of the Ramula Odowa Secondary School in Nyakach, Kenya. These children drink water from a river filled with water-borne diseases. Funding from our Christmas



The people of Subuku Village in Kenya celebrate the life-giving gift of a clean water well, thanks to all of the World Changers who support the work of Ingomar Living Waters!

offering will provide a well that will give them access to clean, sustainable water.

To all who are partnering with and supporting the ongoing efforts of Ingomar Living Waters — YOU are World Changers! Thank you for your generosity!

For a complete list of 2021 projects, visit ingomarlivingwaters.org/projects/

January Schedule

January 2 - Epiphany

8:30 & 10 Traditional & 11 Contemporary
Pastor Dennis

"The Gospel According to Paul" Series January 9

8:30 & 10 Traditional & 11 Contemporary
Pastor Greg

January 16

8:30 & 10 Traditional & 11 Contemporary
Pastor Cyndi

January 23

8:30 & 10 Traditional & 11 Contemporary
Pastor Greg

January 30

8:30 & 10 Traditional & 11 Contemporary
Pastor Greg

You may also worship virtually at 8:30 and 11 by clicking the LIVE STREAM link at ingomarchurch.org.

January Message Series

The Gospel According to Paul

During the first century, the Apostle Paul wrote what many consider to be one of the most important pieces of literature – his masterpiece. In his letter to the Romans, Paul outlines the Gospel he preached and shared following his life-changing vision on the road to Damascus. Paul's letters are among the earliest known Christian documents and they are foundational for us in our lives as we follow Jesus today.

Throughout this series we will reflect on how this Epistle to the people of Rome changed the world and how Paul's words continue to speak to us today. Each of us will be challenged in our life and our walk of faith as we join together to hear the Good News through the voice of the Apostle Paul.

at a glance

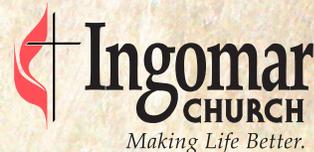
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL
New Message Series begins January 9

Ingomar Child Enrichment Center
REGISTRATION for 2022-2023
Ingomar Church & Preschool Families: Jan. 10
Open to the Public: Jan. 12
Visit ingomarpreschool.org/registration/

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY
February 6
TAKE-OUT SOUP and SANDWICHES
Benefits Philippi YOUTH Mission Trip

New Members Class
Starting Sunday, February 6
Join us for three 1-hour sessions,
Sunday mornings at 9:45am
More info at ingomarchurch.org

Ingomar Church MISSION OUTREACH
SAVE THE DATES
for the 2nd Annual
ONLINE SERVICE AUCTION
Friday, February 25—Sunday, February 27
Donate a service for auction / Bid on a service
All proceeds help to fund Ingomar Church Mission Outreach



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Come and Pray

"Seek the Lord while He may be found; call to Him while He is near."

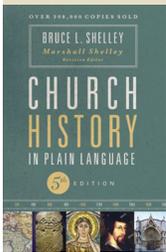
Isaiah 55:6

In the new year, may we find our Lord waiting to be found and keeping His promise of His being with us wherever we go. His nearness is our good. Join Tammy DeBonis in prayer on Thursday, January 6 at 1pm and/or Tuesday, January 18 at 7pm. Meet in the prayer room (entrance 2, 1500 W Ingomar Road).

If you have prayer requests, call the church office or Tammy DeBonis at 412-977-4516.

Small Group News

LuAnn George's Small Group will be studying "Church History in Plain Language" by Bruce L. Shelley as they resume meeting on January 20. The group meets Thursday evenings at 7pm in the Community Life Center, Rm. 109 (1501 West Ingomar Road) and is open to new members. If interested, please contact LuAnn via IConnect.



Bruce Shelley's classic history of the church brings the story of global Christianity into the twenty-first century. Like a skilled screenwriter, Shelley begins each chapter with three elements: characters,

setting, plot. Taking readers from the early centuries of the church up through the modern era he tells his readers a story of actual people, in a particular situation, taking action or being acted upon, provides a window into the circumstances and historical context, and from there develops the story of a major period or theme of Christian history.

Consider Legacy Giving

Please add this line to your will: "After my bills are paid, I want 10 percent of my estate (a tithe) to go to Ingomar United Methodist Church." Ask your legal advisor about this.

Ingomar KIDS

Ingomar KIDS helps children and their families grow together in relationship with Jesus.

PRIME TIME: Sunday morning Kids' Worship Experience for ages 4 through 3rd grade, from 9:45am to 10:45am in the MAC (Multi-Activity Center) Room of the Community Life Center. *If you feel called to help with Prime Time,*

Ingomar YOUTH

come • grow • serve • lead

Ingomar YOUTH exists to lead our students in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Middle School YOUTH: Regular meetings are Sunday evenings from 5pm-6:30pm

High School YOUTH: Regular meetings are Sunday evenings from 6:30pm-8:30pm

NO Ingomar YOUTH on January 2, 2022
Ingomar YOUTH resumes on January 9

No Ingomar YOUTH on February 6, 2022

please contact Rachel Ord, Children's Ministry Director at rord@ingomarchurch.org

ELEVATE: Sunday morning Preteen Worship Experience for grades 4 through 7, from 9:45am to 10:45am in the Café of the Community Life Center.

BLAZE: Monday Preteen Youth Group for grades 4 & 5, from 6pm to 7:30pm in the MAC Room of the Community Life Center.

SOUPer BOWL 2022 — Sunday, February 6

Join us for Take-Out-only soup and sandwiches following each worship service.*

Cost is by donation only, and all donations of \$100 will be matched! Hoagies are from Produce Plus, and Soup is donated by families, as well as purchased from Soergel's. Proceeds from this annual fundraising event help to fund the Philippi Senior High Mission Trip! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

*If your high schooler wants to serve, have them contact Mark Naylor at mnaylor@consolidated.net

Save the Dates for the annual Philippi Senior High Mission Trip: June 12-18

For more info, email youth@ingomarchurch.org

Ingomar Child Enrichment Center Update

Ingomar Child Enrichment Center is an outreach ministry of Ingomar Church, helping parents care for and educate their children in a loving environment.



In December, students and families enjoyed Polar Express Night and four wonderful Christmas Programs! Although we are only half way through this school year, it is time to begin thinking of next year. On January 8, we're holding an Open House for new families interested in enrolling

their children for the 2022/2023 school year. On January 10, online registration begins for members of Ingomar Church and currently enrolled families. Registration to the public opens on January 12.

Visit ingomarpreschool.org for more information.

To learn more about Ingomar Child Development Center, contact Ashley Salsgiver: ashleys@ingomarchurch.org

Highlighting our Chancel Windows

The sanctuary of Ingomar Church has many symbols to help us reflect on the life of Jesus. As we highlight our 14 chancel windows, this issue features the Chalice window.

The chalice was a special drinking cup used by Jesus for communion with the disciples. When used alone, the chalice stands for faith; when used with a wafer, it symbolizes his communion.



"Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the Kingdom of God!'"

(Mark 14:23)

Ingomar Church Mission Outreach: 2021 In Review

The Mission Outreach Committee of Ingomar Church strives to spread God's love by promoting and supporting opportunities for mission through education, service and financial support.

During 2021, in spite of the pandemic, mission outreach efforts remained active and had positive impact on many lives.

2021 Online Service Auction

The year began with an online fundraising event (the "UN-Rummage Sale") through which 65 service items were auctioned off. The event raised \$11,200 which was donated to five local organizations:

- **Bethany House Academy** – supporting education / poverty reduction in the community of Northview Heights
- **Daily Bread Soup Kitchen** – providing meals to homeless and underemployed
- **Hair Peace Charities** – providing encouragement and financial support for women/girls undergoing chemotherapy
- **HEARTH** – providing supportive services including housing to family survivors of domestic violence
- **North Hills Community Outreach** – providing supportive services to people in crisis, hardship and poverty

Homeless Care Kit Ministry

The Mission Committee began a new project, intended to be ongoing, making kits for people experiencing homelessness. Donations of toiletries, socks, snacks, etc. were collected and 60 bags were assembled. The kits were made available at the Information Center areas for people to take, keep in their cars, and distribute whenever they encountered individuals on the street asking for money. The initial batch of kits has been taken and donations are being received to create more.

AmazonSmile

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Ingomar Church Mission Outreach. Thanks to all who selected Ingomar United Methodist Church as their charitable organization, and then did their Amazon shopping at smile.amazon.com. Amazon Smile brought in \$406 for the first 3 quarters of the year, which supports the organizations on our list.

Thanksgiving on Every Table 2021

Through its annual 'Thanksgiving on Every Table' initiative, North Hills Community Outreach (NHCO) provides a Thanksgiving meal for local families in need. This year donations from Ingomar Church reached a total of \$5380 in gift cards.

Angel Trees 2021

Through our Angel Tree program, we provide support to the North Hills Community Outreach (NHCO) Toy Drive, and support for the Northview Heights Coat Drive at Bethany House. This year we provided 60 gifts and over \$200 in gift cards for the Toy Drive and 46 coats and lots of mittens, hats and scarves for the Coat Drive.

Year-Round Volunteer Opportunities

Ingomar Church Mission Outreach has volunteers going to Daily Bread Soup Kitchen on a monthly basis and to Global Links. Many other volunteer opportunities that are typically supported are not in operation due to pandemic.

Year-Round Financial Support

The committee provides financial support to several overseas missionaries, the Western Pennsylvania UMC Camping and Retreat Ministries, Global Links, Eastbrook Mission Barn, Honduras Hope Mission and a few others as well as the five local organizations mentioned previously in the 2021 Online Service Auction info. Supplies are donated and taken to North Hills Community Outreach food bank on a regular basis.

Looking Ahead to 2022

Our second annual **Online Service Auction** will be held on **Friday, February 25 through Sunday, February 27**. Funds raised will go to local organizations focusing on families and those struggling with poverty. We hope that many more people will get involved this year so we can top last year's number.

- There are several ways to get involved. Think about what kind of service you can offer. It can be anything from making a specialty food item, offering a service such as tax advice, perennial garden planning, tutoring, spring cleaning of a yard, hauling junk to the dump, babysitting, dog walking, anything that is your talent or interest.
- Encourage your small group and others to get involved. Everyone has a special talent that they can offer.
- Sign up to bid online and bid on your favorite items. The website is very user friendly. Monetary donations can also be made through the website. The link will be shared closer to the auction date.

The pandemic has forced us to explore new ways of doing things, but the purpose of bringing help and sharing our love with others remains the same. Mark your calendars for the auction and start thinking about how you can be involved.

In closing, the Missions Committee wishes to thank all church family and friends for their generous donations throughout the year, which made it possible for the committee to provide funding of about \$100,000 to organizations we support.

New Members Class

Join a New Members Class – Feb. 6, 13, and 20 in the Community Life Center Conference Room from 9:45-10:45am. New members will be received in worship on February 20. Sign up on your Connect card or contact Pastor Cyndi.



Our Staff Spotlight is on Associate Pastor Cyndi Bloise, who has served here for 18 months, working in the areas of Mission, Small Groups, Wellness, Pastoral Care, and Worship. She is not a member—pastors hold their membership with the conference—but her husband Frank joined Ingomar Church in 2021.

Cyndi drops in on small groups and regularly attends as many as her schedule allows, so she can get to know people better.

Cyndi and Frank have 3 daughters (2 are married and the other graduates with her MFA in ceramic art at Edinboro University in 2022), and their first grandchild arrived October 27, 2021!

Cyndi loves to read, learn new languages, travel, cook (especially soups), walk or hike, play games, do crafts, moderately exercise, visit with old friends, talk with people one-on-one.

Cyndi's father was a pastor in the Church of the Brethren (thus she had homes in many states growing up). She used to play violin, viola, and cello and still occasionally plays the piano. She met Frank in Harrisburg the last week of a college internship. She is a former Speech-Language Pathologist who worked with stroke and head injury patients. In the fall of 2019 she rode her bike from Little Boston, PA to Washington, DC on the C&O and GAP trails!

Staff Parish Relations Committee salutes Cyndi! Please offer her a kind word of acknowledgment, as she deserves a million thanks for her service to Ingomar Church.

January 2022

Sanctuary Flowers

Given to the glory of God

January 2

Deborah & Keith Rust in memory of Deborah's father, Gordon W. Warnke

January 9

The Frantz family in memory of Kathy Frantz

January 16

The family of Lee Chandler in loving memory of Lee Chandler

January 2

Francis Sharlow in memory of his son Kirk

Church Family

Sympathy to:

Friends and family of Patty Spahr on the passing of her brother-in-law, **Joseph Ralcewicz** on November 27

Friends and family of Cathy and Kevin Little on the passing of Cathy's sister **Christine Sweikowski** on December 8

Friends and family of Tina and Kris Proctor on the passing of Tina's father **Paul Crnkovic** on December 12

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• Pastor Greg Cox • Pastor Cyndi Bloise
• Pastor Dennis Henley

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Ingomar Living Waters (ILW): 2021 in Review

2021 - A Record Year! With the world still in the grips of the pandemic, Ingomar Living Waters created an online virtual event in 2021. The *Virtual Turning Wine Into Water* event was well attended and raised a record \$170,000+! Thank you to all of the generous long-supporting donors for your continued dedication to this mission. ILW also saw a record increase of first-time donors - and we are most grateful to each one.

Projects funded in 2021 spanned 17 different countries: Rwanda, Pakistan, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Peru, Burkina Faso, Nicaragua, India, Malawi, Liberia, Zambia, Kenya, and a new country in 2021 - Democratic Republic of the Congo.

2021 was a record-breaking year for funds raised, as well as projects funded and completed. We were able to fund and implement:

- 45 wells (48% increase since 2020)
- 3 water filtration systems
- 4 water sanitation projects (so much in need since the rise of COVID infections)
- 3 water distribution systems
- 6 clean water projects (i.e. filters, WASH programs, store and containment systems)



In 2021, ILW also obtained a new partner, **LifeWater**. A focus of their mission is to stay in a village for an average of five years to help educate and implement water projects. We partnered with them on a clean water project in Dodola Region in Ethiopia. In Dodola, water usage is exceptionally low, with the average household using only 13

gallons of water per day between five-six people. The World Health Organization recommends a minimum of 13 gallons per day per person to meet basic hydration, hygiene and sanitation needs. These families have been surviving on what amounts to sips of water a day. We were able to help provide clean, sustainable water to these villagers.

Since 2011, Ingomar Living Waters has funded:

- 168 Wells
- 28 Water Filtration Projects
- 28 Sanitations Projects
- 31 Water Distribution Projects
- 32 Other types of water-related projects
- 3,500 Water Filters

Impacting over 522,000 people in 27 countries worldwide.

For more information and details of successful projects, visit: ingomarlivingwaters.org

Quick Notes

Join the Flower Team – The Flower Team needs some new members to help create the floral arrangements that beautify our sanctuary. Training is available by one of the current team members. If you have a love of flowers and a good eye, please sign up on your Connect Card or contact the church office.

Join the Ingomar Church Staff – We continue to search for candidates to fill the positions of **Connect Ministry Coordinator** and **Church Data Administrator**. We are also searching for a **Director of Next Gen Ministries**: an exciting opportunity for a dynamic, enthusiastic youth leader who loves kids and loves teaching them about Jesus. If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving Christ as a member of the Ingomar Church Staff, please contact Chub Dietz, Director, Generosity & Administration at 412-364-3613 or cdietz@ingomarchurch.org for more information.

Global Links Volunteer Opportunity – The next Global Links work date is Tuesday Jan. 18, 2022. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Earl Marsh (his email/phone is available in IConnect) or contact the church office.

Help us Spread the Word! – Social Media is a great way to connect with the people of Ingomar Church and a great way to spread the news about the church to others. **Be a Social Media Champion!** Follow Ingomar Church on Facebook, Twitter, and/or Instagram, and interact with our posts at least once each week. To

"interact" all you have to do is "like, click, comment, and/or share" the post. The more times you do, the more effective our social media becomes. **Be an E-News Advocate!** Subscribe to and open our E-News (email news highlights) each week and share it with one or two others (friends, acquaintances, family, or other subscribers). All you have to do is click "forward" and specify your recipient.

Homeless Care Kit Items Needed – Thanks to everyone who distributed Care Kits to local homeless people. We are assembling more kits and we need the following items: Nail clippers, Combs, Sunscreen and Toothbrushes. Donations may be left at the Information Centers.

Communion at Home – Members who have been unable to attend in-person worship and would like to receive Communion at home, are invited to contact Pastor Dennis by calling the church office or by emailing: dhenley@ingomarchurch.org and he will make arrangements with you.

It's Easy to use our Electronic Giving options – Choose from online giving through our website:

ingomarchurch.org/give or our mobile "myVanco" giving app, or simply text an amount (preceded by a dollar sign) to 412-504-7798 and enter a giving code. You can give now by scanning the QR code with your mobile device. Thank you for your generosity!

