

# Idylwood



# PANORAMA

## Newsletter of Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Volume XLI, No.. 12

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Dear friends,

Sometimes in the everyday routine of ministry it's easy to forget what we're really about as a church: sharing God's love with the lonely, the hurting, the hungry and the sick.

Every quarter we have a Service for Wholeness and Healing at IPC. These services provide a time for people to come and offer prayers for themselves or a loved one in need. They are always sparsely attended. That's fine, though the administrator in me always wants to ask "Is this a good use of everyone's time and energy? Are these services meeting a need?" I was sharing some of these questions with Amy Williams, our organist, as she and I readied for last month's service, and she said, "Does it help the people who come? That's really what matters."

And sure enough, this past month we had two people attend whom I had never seen before. I'm always touched and honored when people visit our church for the first time. That's a risk, coming into a brand new community, not knowing what you'll find. Add to that the dynamic of coming to a *service for wholeness*... and that's a level of bravery and faith that touches me deeply!

The next part is hard to articulate, but suffice to say that I had a clear sense that God was caring for these unknown individuals through the service. Very little was said on their part. Very little was done on my part—just some reflections and some prayers, really. But the Holy Spirit was present, and that's what matters. Our little service made a big impact.

This is what we're about. This is why we support IPC financially and with our presence and volunteer efforts—because it makes a difference in the lives of real people, whether they're long-time members or folks who will come once and never again. Thank you for sharing your time and your resources with this community. In this month's Panorama, you'll hear more about ways to get involved in God's work this fall. Don't miss out—it's a great adventure, full of surprise.

Peace of Christ,

MaryAnn

*Idylwood Presbyterian Church is a welcoming Christian congregation. Thankful for God's grace and enlivened by the Holy Spirit, we aspire to demonstrate the inclusive and expansive love of Jesus Christ to neighbors near and far.*



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# Idylwood Presbyterian Church



## The Improvising God: God's Work in an Imperfect World A Sermon Series September 8 - October 6

When a tornado strikes Oklahoma, a tragedy rocks a Newtown elementary school, or an earthquake levels Haiti, we all become theologians, for better or worse. If loved ones are spared, we rejoice that prayers were answered. But what about the prayers of those who did not survive? As Presbyterians, we proclaim God's sovereignty as one of our basic affirmations of faith... but what do we mean by that?

Are there more expansive ways to think about God's providence that take seriously God's love and also the reality of tragedy? We will tackle these and other big questions beginning September 8 and continuing through October 6. Scripture will be our primary conversation partner, along with theology, human psychology, literature, music and more.



### Joys:

- Sione Manninoa Gebhardt: grandson of Nona Bear, born September 18
- Maria Hoover: marriage to Dirk Holsopple on September 7

### Concerns:

- Tom Tang: passed away September 23
- George Petras's aunt and uncle: recent move to assisted living
- Emily Whitaker's father: recent stroke
- Fred Brammer: passed away August 18
- Osman family: adoption process
- Emily Whitaker's sister Coni: cancer treatment
- Carol Shuh: pulmonary illness
- Doug Roark's former wife Diane: breast cancer
- Alison French: chronic illness
- Linda Dono's brother;
- Steve Allen's son -- healing and wholeness for all.



## Worship at IPC

**October 6** – MaryAnn Dana, preaching. We conclude "The Improvising God" sermon series.

**October 13** – The Rev. Jim Sirbaugh, Pastor Emeritus, preaching. (MaryAnn will be leading the Family Conference at Massanetta Springs; see below for information and to register.)

**October 20** – The Rev. Ruth Everhart, preaching. (MaryAnn will be leading the Oasis Christian Education Event in Heartland Presbytery in Kansas City.) Ruth, our guest preacher, has served in National Capital Presbytery since 1999, including a decade at Poolesville Presbyterian Church. She is the author of *Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land* about a pilgrimage to Israel/Palestine. She is currently working with the Military Chaplains Association, and writing another book, a spiritual memoir. She invites you to read her blog ([www.rutheverhart.com](http://www.rutheverhart.com)).

**October 27** – MaryAnn Dana, preaching: Luke 18:9-14



**October 11-13, Harrisonburg, VA**  
**Keynote Speaker: Our own MaryAnn Dana!**

The topic will be MaryAnn's book, *Sabbath in the Suburbs*, features plenty of fun and free time, and is open to families of all shapes and sizes. Find out more and register here:

<http://www.massanettasprings.org/family-conference/>

## October Dedication Chancel Flowers

**Oct 6 in Celebration of the Joy  
of Life, Family and Friends. -  
Greta W.**

**Oct 13<sup>th</sup> In Honor of Sybille's  
19<sup>th</sup> birthday! –Yolande Miller**

**Oct 20<sup>th</sup> In honor of Jesse's  
18<sup>th</sup> birthday! -Shaw's**

**Oct 27<sup>th</sup> In honor of our sweet  
Eric -Osmans**



### Meet Our New Larrick Scholar! - Eric Koenig

Eric is a first-year student at Union Presbyterian Seminary. He is from Cleveland Heights, OH and a graduate of Bowling Green State University. Prior to seminary he served as a Presbyterian Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) in Austin, Texas. He will receive a \$3,500 scholarship for the 2013-2014 academic year courtesy of IPC's Larrick Fund.

Eric will preach at IPC this fall and spring. We look forward to meeting him and growing together in faith.

### T4: Thursday Theology Talk... on Tap

October 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Our monthly informal series on matters of faith resumes on. at the Lost Dog Cafe in McLean. Come for a drink or milkshake, appetizer or dinner, or just good conversation. Topic to be announced.



### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Saturday, October 19th at 10 a.m.

Mikey, our resident deacon dog, invites you to bring your four-footed (or other) pet friend to IPC for a special service of blessing.



### A Place at the Table: A Documentary

Viewing, Discussion and Ideas for IPC Action

Sunday, November 3, 9 a.m.

Discussion following worship



50 Million Americans—1 in 4 children—don't know where their next meal is coming from. *A Place at the Table* tells the powerful stories of three such Americans, who maintain their dignity even as they struggle just to eat. In a riveting journey that will change forever how you think about the hungry, *A Place at the Table* shows how the issue could be solved forever, once the American public decides—as they have in the past—that ending hunger is in the best interests of us all. - See more at: <http://www.magpictures.com/aplaceatthetable/>

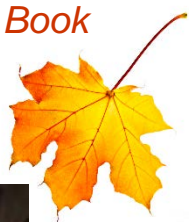
We will view the film before worship at 9 a.m., then discuss the film following worship during a special coffee hour. Sponsored by the Transformers.



## IPC Classroom Site for Writing Workshop

Year-Long *Write Your Book*  
with Hildie Block

I love this workshop!



Over the course of about 10 months, through 28+ class meetings, you get the opportunity to workshop 200+ pages of your manuscript AS YOU WRITE IT! This will be my 8th year leading this workshop and it's always exciting to go on this journey with a new group of writers!

<http://hildieblockworkshop.webs.com/>

### Signs of the Deacons

We are putting up  
new signage.  
Let us know how you like it!

## Birthdays This Month



Stacia	Borello	3-Oct
Greta	Wright	6-Oct
Gregory S.	Gallopolous	8-Oct
David	Miller	8-Oct
Nancy	Budny	9-Oct
Caitlin	Dawson	9-Oct
Yolanda	Miller	10-Oct
John	Elliott	11-Oct
Sibylle	Miller	13-Oct
Rachel	Johns	14-Oct
Will	Whitaker	16-Oct
Linda	Dono	17-Oct
Pamela M.	Wolfe	21-Oct
Jesse	Shaw	25-Oct
Anne	Stuckey	28-Oct
Maya Claire	Van Dyke	31-Oct

## Volunteer Mentor Training

The Naomi Project is a free, confidential, interfaith program sponsored by the Virginia Council of Churches. It matches one volunteer with one pregnant or newly parenting woman in a mentoring friendship that extends through the pregnancy and the baby's early development. If you would like to volunteer to be a mentor, contact Laura Greenspan at 703-860-2633. There is a special need for Spanish speaking volunteers. The next training will be on Saturday, October 5 at Falls Church Presbyterian Church located at 225 E. Broad Street, Falls Church.



Myrtle Bales  
Florida Address  
4941 Bella Terra Dr  
Venice, FL 34293  
941-497-4995

## Treasurer's corner

### Can You Count?

Each Sunday, two members of the church count our morning offering. This allows the administrative work of the church to be shared and alleviates the workload of our volunteer treasurer. If you are on our team but haven't counted for a while, we need you! Would you like to learn? Talk to Dana Opp, church treasurer, for a short training. It's an easy way to serve IPC and usually takes 25 minutes or less each time.

### eGiving

We (IPC) now have the capability to enable egiving. This allows you to designate a regular amount for the church and have it debited directly from your bank account automatically if you so desire. If you are interested in doing this please see Dana Opp for more details.

## Rides

If you need a ride to church please call  
**Don Palmer** before  
6pm on Friday  
Home: 703-888-0854.  
Work: 703-258-1220



## THE DEACONS CORNER

On behalf of the deacons of IPC, I'd like to wish all of you a happy and healthy month of October.

The big news for October is our **Friendship Breakfast** to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. We will be serving a delicious breakfast for all and, more importantly, we will be collecting donations for a very worthy cause: the "Stand Proud" organization in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This is the same charity that Yolande spoke to us about a while ago one Sunday. They make and provide leg braces for people who are suffering from polio and similar diseases. We will have additional information about Stand Proud available at the breakfast.

A good breakfast, and the chance to help a good cause!  
So, please attend, and bring a friend!

**Deacon Duty Roster:** Nov – Don, Dec. – Cheval with all.



By Don Palmer

### Friendship Breakfast October 6<sup>th</sup>, 10AM

The Deacons are hosting a breakfast before 11am service, bring your friends!



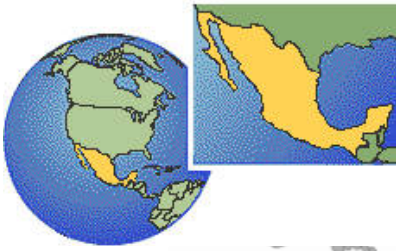
Have you always wanted to bring that certain friend to our tiny church? This is a good excuse to call them and save the date! We will be honoring the work done by **Stand Proud**. This organization was presented to us by Yolande Miller who has witness the impact it has on children in the community.

**Stand Proud** is a non-profit that works in six cities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, to provide corrective treatment, locally-crafted leg braces, and accompanying rehabilitative services, at no cost to poor families with children who have been disabled by polio or who have similar disabilities, and promote the full integration of disabled persons into society.

The people who work for Stand Proud are a pretty awesome bunch, and have currently helped over 2,500 children and adults access rehabilitative equipment, casting and corrective surgery, pre and post-operative care, and education. Additionally, the people who are employed in Stand Proud's workshops to create and fit new braces, were rehabilitated by Stand Proud, and now lead mainstream lives. <http://www.standproud.org/>



Over the past several years, renowned photographer **Finbar O'Riley** visited Stand Proud sites in Kinshasa, Goma, and Bunia, and his powerful images provide a window into what the organization is all about. Here's a small selection:



## **We made it to Jerusalem... and we made it to DRC — let's keep going!**

Now that the hot days of summer are behind us... it is time to get up and get active again. So, we're leaving DRC and heading over to Mexico to share some stories and memories with Virginia Morales. Start keeping track of your steps or miles again – we've got a lot of ocean to cross!



### **LEA third Sunday musician October 20th**

LEA is more than simply a singer songwriter. She is a “musical visionary,” specializing in uplifting, thought provoking and positive music. Her sound seamlessly blends gospel, jazz, country and R&B into her own brand of “feel-good” contemporary folk. Her style draws comparisons to Tracy Chapman’s bluesy folk, Joni Mitchell’s exquisite song craft, and Ani DiFranco’s inventive guitar playing. This is LEA; she is all of this and more.



### **Bone Marrow Registry Drive**

#### ***IPC will be sponsoring a bone marrow registry drive November 23***

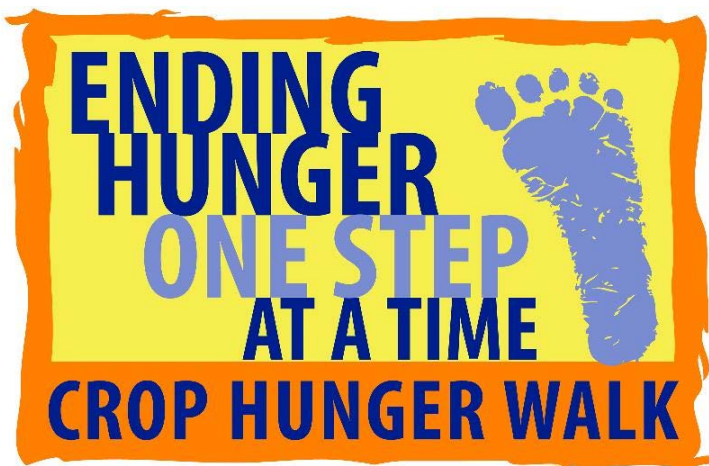
This November marks the two-year anniversary of Jacob Osman’s bone-marrow transplant. Although his transplant was successful and gave him almost a year of life, Jacob succumbed to Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD) on September 1, 2012.

***IPC will be sponsoring a bone marrow registry drive*** to honor Jacob’s memory and to help other people receive the gift of life. It’s easy to register—fill out some paperwork and receive a cheek swab. Find out more at [www.BeTheMatch.org](http://www.BeTheMatch.org).

We need everyone’s involvement to make this drive a success. We need volunteers ahead of time and on the day of the drive. We need folks to invite their friends and neighbors to come get “swabbed.” We need people to help us raise some funds to offset the cost of the processing. We need you to join the registry if you have not already done so. Watch this space for details.







## **November 10<sup>th</sup>, Crop Hunger Walk**

Falls Church CROP Hunger Walk 2013

Sunday, November 10, 2013

Falls Church, VA

This year's walk is sponsored by Falls Church Community Service Council and donations will benefit that organization as well as Church World Service. Watch this space for details and plan to join us for an easy 5K walk for hunger relief.



## **IPC Hosts Peer-to-Peer Recovery Curriculum by National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**

Sept 25 to Nov 27th, (10 weeks), 7-9pm



Peer-to-Peer is a unique, experiential learning program for people with any serious mental illness who are interested in establishing and maintaining their wellness and recovery. **The course will be provided at no cost to participants, and open to the community.**

**The class is facilitated by trained, volunteer Peer Mentors of NAMI-Northern Virginia, the local affiliate for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).**

Peer-to-Peer consists of ten two-hour units and is taught by a team of two trained "Mentors" and a volunteer support person who are personally experienced at living well with mental illness. Mentors are trained in an intensive three day training session and are supplied with teaching manuals.

Participants come away from the course with a binder of hand-out materials, as well as many other tangible resources: an advance directive; a "relapse prevention plan" to help identify tell-tale feelings, thoughts, behavior, or events that may warn of impending relapse and to organize for intervention; mindfulness exercises to help focus and calm thinking; and survival skills for working with providers and the general public.

### **Peer to Peer (ages 18+)**

**10-week recovery education course for peers**

**Wednesdays, September 25 - November 27**

**7:00 PM - 9:00 PM in Falls Church, VA**

**To register, call Bob at [703-980-4401](tel:703-980-4401) or e-mail [namibob2012@aol.com](mailto:namibob2012@aol.com)**



SERMON PODCAST: Sermons are now available via download at <http://idylwood.sermondrop.com/sermons>. We are also listed in iTunes: search for "Idylwood Presbyterian Church" under Podcasts, hit "subscribe," and have each week's sermon loaded automatically onto your various listening devices. For those of you who read sermon manuscripts – they will be back soon!



"IPC Events Calendar

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<http://www.idylwoodpresbyterian.org>

IPC Calendar is on-line at



**Idylwood Presbyterian Church**  
**7617 Idylwood Road**  
**Falls Church, Virginia 22043-2912**



**October 2013**

Comments or suggestion?  
[chevalforceopp@gmail.com](mailto:chevalforceopp@gmail.com)

