

Idylwood



PANORAMA

Newsletter of Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Volume XLII, No.. 2

Advent and Christmas at IPC

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.



Pastor
MaryAnn McKibben Dana
pastor@idylwoodpresbyterian.org

Clerk of Session: Cara Dobbins

Treasurer : Dana Opp

Pastor Emeritus
Leonard B. Sirbaugh

Administrative Asst. - Amy Moore
admin@idylwoodpresbyterian.org

**7617 Idylwood Road,
Falls Church, VA 22043-2912
703-573-3027**

www.idylwoodpresbyterian.org

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent: Matthew 24:36-44
IPC Chancel Choir

Saturday, December 7

IPC Choir and Friends at Wolf Trap's Holiday Sing-Along
with the Marine Corps Band
Sing on stage with 300 other voices, or enjoy the fun in the audience!
Choir arrives at 3:30, concert for all 4:00-5:30

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent: Romans 15:1-13
IPC Chancel Choir

After Church Study: The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem, Week 1 (p. 2)

Saturday, December 14

Christmas Celebration Potluck, 6-8 p.m. (p. 2)

Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 35:1-10
Guest Musician: Grace Under Pressure

After Church Study: The Journey, Week 2

Sunday, December 15

"Blue Christmas" Service, 7 p.m. (p. 3)

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Matthew 1:18-25
Sharing the Story of Christmas: An Interactive Experience
Christmas Joy Offering (p. 3)

After Church Study: The Journey, Week 3

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service, 7:30 p.m.
Lessons and Carols, Candlelight, Hot Cider and Cookies
IPC Chancel Choir

See inside for details about these and other ministries!



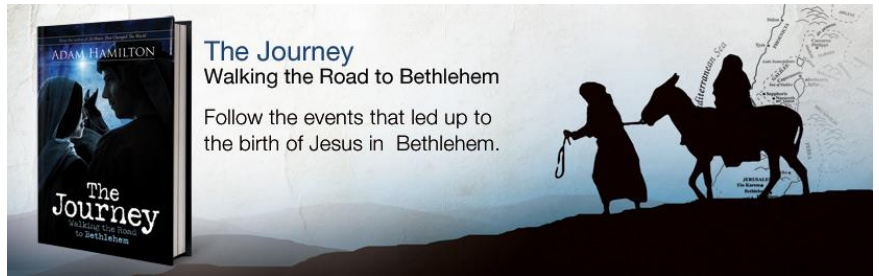
Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Advent Group Study December 8, 15 and 22 after church

The Journey:
Walking the Road to Bethlehem
DVD and Discussion

Bring a simple snack to share around the table.

Journey with Adam Hamilton, Methodist pastor and author, as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Hamilton approaches this world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the incarnation of Jesus will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.



The Journey
Walking the Road to Bethlehem
Follow the events that led up to
the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.

Saturday, December 14, 6-8 pm
Idylwood Presbyterian Church
Christmas Celebration

Bring a potluck dish to share that serves 8-10

Home of Bob & Leslie Osman
7205 Friden Dr
Falls Church, VA 22043-1137
(703) 288-3077

Joys:

Birth of Olivia Lee Lucas: new granddaughter of Emily Whitaker

Concerns:

Robert Dana's stepmother Anne: recent open-heart surgery

Yolande Miller: working in Afghanistan

Tim Rowe's mother: ill

Martha Bentzen: recent cataract surgery

Willa Untiedt's brother (Kate's uncle) Jack: passed away

Roy Robertson, Rae Case's cousin: passed away

Cecilia Brammer, Linda Tang: grief at death of husbands

Virginia Morales's sister-in-law: passed away

George Petras's aunt and uncle: recent move to assisted living

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.

**December Dedication
Chancel Flowers**

**December 8th -
Maria Hoover & Dirk Holsopple**

December 15th - WHO???

December 22nd Poinsettias

December 29th Poinsettias

**Sign up NOW for your Christmas
Poinsettias dedication**

Blue Christmas Sunday, December 22, 7 p.m.

Brightly wrapped packages, Christmas trees, holiday parties, and the awed, hushed joy of welcoming a tiny infant to our world and our hearts—these are the images of Christmas that many of us celebrate and treasure.

But for others, December is not a jolly time. The death of a loved one, illness and caregiving responsibilities, job changes, or other circumstances can make the holiday season difficult. For those who have experienced loss, and for those under stress during the holiday season who need a time of rest, this service is for you. With singing and scripture reading, a short message and communion, this service invites all of us to take time to care for ourselves, and to receive the care of the community. This is our quarterly service for wholeness and healing, with a special Christmas emphasis. This is a good service to invite a friend who may be in need.



Christmas Joy Offering collection December 22

A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Because Advent and Christmas shine a light not only on our world's greatest hope but also on our world's greatest need, the PC(USA) provides this timely opportunity for congregations to support causes specifically designed to bring Good News of Great Joy to the poor in circumstance or spirit.

Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions (which assists current ministers and their families who are in crisis) and to support student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. For more information: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/specialofferings/about-christmas-joy-offering>

CROP Walk Success!!

Thanks to all who walked and/or sponsored walkers in the first annual *Falls Church* CROP Walk for hunger relief. The money we raised will go toward international relief efforts through Church World Service and local efforts to assist those in need within our own community through the Falls Church Community Service Council.



Totals for the FC CROP Walk are not yet available, thanks to your efforts and generosity, IPC walkers raised \$950 towards the cause!



Does the Upton Room Seem Bigger?

Clean up efforts are underway to clear out things no longer needed. Thanks to **Jennifer and Shawn**, IPC received two hours of George Mason High School Music Department hard working students. Thanks to Cheval Opp for her efforts and organization

Get Fit in 2014

LizFit, specializes in mobility, flexibility and strengthening for people in the 50ish stage of life. Liz Dyck is offering her first classes at IPC in 2014 - January 10, 17, 24 & 31. Mondays 11-11:50am. Wear loose clothing and bring yoga mat if you have one. Classes are \$60 for all prepaid or \$25 per drop in. Need more information, ask Liz at lizzyvandyck@gmail.com



Sarah (Whitaker) and Josh Lucas
first child

Olivia Lee Lucas

Weighed 8 pounds, 21 inches long and born November 4, 2013 in Abington, VA. All three are doing well and Emily Whitaker is thrilled to be a grandmother.

Thank you Bob Osman for all the outside cleanup efforts – leaves, yard debris, trash, tree trimming and other important and noticeable accomplishments

Birthdays This Month

Amy	Moore	1 Dec
Jane	Duffield	5 Dec
Priscilla	Wolfe	14 Dec
Melissa	Caracciolo	17 Dec
Margaret	Dana	27 Dec
Dylan	Miller	27 Dec
John	Moore	29 Dec



Rides

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

Treasurer's corner

It's pledge time!

Support the ministry and mission of Idylwood Presbyterian Church through a financial pledge for 2014. These pledges help the session plan and budget responsibly—you can email Dana Opp, our treasurer, at rdopp3@gmail.com or drop your pledge in the Sunday offertory in an envelope marked for the IPC Treasurer - PLEDGE. Please respond by December 8.

eGiving

We (IPC) will now accept EFT donations, electronic fund transfers, also known as direct debit. You just fill out our form with your banking information and let us know how much you'd like to give each week or month. If you are interested in doing this **please see Dana Opp for the form to fill out authorizing the church to do this.**

·WHAT IS ELECTRONIC GIVING (EGIVING)?

Electronic Giving is the term used to describe automatic methods for making contributions on a regular basis without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes. Direct Debit Giving is the original and most popular form of electronic giving.

·FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q.** What are the major advantages of electronic giving by direct debit?
- A.** Direct debit is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. Electronic giving eliminates frequent check writing and helps members stay on track with pledges even when they are unable to attend services. The church in turn benefits from much-needed donation consistency and a reduction in the volume of check and cash contributions that must be handled and manually processed every Sunday.
- Q.** How does Direct Debit Giving work?
- A.** Contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Deacons Corner

On behalf of the IPC Board of Deacons, I'd like to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! (Now I don't have to send out cards)

It's hard to believe that it's already that wonderful time of year again. We deacons are looking forward to Christmas as much as anyone else, and we know that the good people of IPC won't be forgetting the less fortunate this time of year. Your donation helped fund the health fair and bone marrow match activities at IPC. I'm sure that everyone reading this has already put coins or currency into the Salvation Army kettles that are already out.

Another way to help that we are hoping to arrange for IPC is the opportunity to provide food and supplies for the homeless shelter on Gordon Road for a week in January or February. Years ago, we delivered home-cooked meals to the shelter, but changing regulations have put us more into a grocery-shopping situation. By the way, the great chefs of IPC were considered to be among the very best meal providers by the residents of the shelter back then.

At this time, we haven't yet scheduled the week we are to cover, but we will let everyone know when and what help is needed as soon as we find out. So, be sure to keep that in mind for the early part of 2014.

Well, that is all for this month except to once more wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year.
Blessings to all

By Don Palmer

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24th, 7:30pm
Lessons, Carols, Candlelight,
Hot Cider and Cookies,
IPC Chancel Choir



Idylwood Presbyterian Assembled 50 Letters

This effort was run by a local morning radio show called The Bert Show. They wanted to make sure that every service man and woman working outside the United States for Thanksgiving Day received a THANK YOU letter for their time, effort, and devotion. Idylwood Presbyterian assembled 50 letters and sent them in. I hope to make this an annual event. For more information: <http://bigthankyou2013.com/> Peace Cara

HOMESTRETCH HOLIDAY ADOPTION

December 15th Gift Collection

This year we will again support Homestretch through our Annual Holiday Adoption Program. We can truly make a difference this holiday season by helping a family in need. As a sponsor, we provide this family, working hard to transition from homelessness to a self sufficient life, by providing gifts and a holiday meal which they would otherwise not be able to afford.

We have received information for a family to support during the holidays,

Maribel and her 2 children: Patrick (16) and Natalia (10).

Please sign up so that IPC can provide each family member in the household with a minimum of three (3) gifts, at about \$30 each:

- An Item of Clothing
- An Educational or Practical Gift
- A "Wish List" Gift

The family's wish list with clothing sizes and gift suggestions will be available for sign up at the church. We also want to provide a sizable grocery store gift card, so that the family can enjoy a holiday meal.

Please have your holiday gifts wrapped and labeled to the church by December 15 so that we may deliver them to the family NO LATER THAN Friday, December 20th.

Please contact Jane Duffield for additional information: duffield4j@msn.com



A Note of Appreciation (corrections from November Newsletter)

I send the IPC congregation my gratitude for a meaningful, memorable Service and Reception for Tom on Saturday October 5, 2013 at 11am.

The last of his generation and oldest IPC member at 94, Tom will be truly missed. You warmly welcomed about 80 of our family and longtime friends from as far away as NY State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, North Dakota and Kansas, all of whom spoke highly of IPC. Many attending have made memorial donations to IPC in Tom's memory.

Especially for the spiritual leadership of Rev. MaryAnn Dana, Pastor, who was assisted by Rev. Jim Sirbaugh, IPC Pastor Emeritus, the inspiring music of the Choir and Director/Organist Amy, Soloist Linda Dono and Deacons Ceresa Haney, Don Palmer and Steve Allen as well as Dana and Cheval Opp, do I give thanks.

Buried in CloverLeaf Memorial Park, Woodbridge, New Jersey next to my Parents (Tom and Dad were both mechanical engineers, and active leaders in ASME), at 12 noon on Friday, September 27, 2013, at a graveside service with extended family and longtime friends, led by family friend Rev. Melchior Van Hattem, Tom's life-journey ended with dignity and as part of the very caring IPC congregation.

With sincere appreciation,
Linda K. Tang,
21 October, 2013

December Third Sunday Musicians December 15th

Brenda and Dave Gillinson have been writing and playing music together since they married over 15 years ago. Dave often comes up with beautiful tunes on his guitar and Brenda is then compelled to find words to match. Much of the music they write is inspirational in nature, while fitting different genres such as Pop, Country and Contemporary Christian or Inspirational. Brenda and Dave's debut CD, "This Day," earned a nomination for best album in the Gospel/Inspirational category of the 2004 Washington Area Music Association Awards (the "Wammies"). Some comments on the CD from happy listeners include, "...inspiring and so uplifting," "I get goose bumps listening to it," and "your songs open my heart, bring tears, change consciousness."



Health Fair Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who planned, assisted, and attended our health fair and bone marrow registry drive. We served a steady stream of folks, and are still counting up the number of people we registered. Stay tuned.

Thanks to planners Leslie Osman, Nancy Budny, Nona Bear, Maria Hoover, and Curt Budny and MANY helpers, including Nancy Cline, Cara Dobbins, Steve Dobbins, Bryan Dobbins, Robert Dana, Rachel Osman and Dana Opp.

Also, thanks to our partners and sponsors. Please visit these businesses and let them know you appreciate their support:

MOM (Mom's Organic Market)

Lava Yogurt

Whole Foods

Italian Market

Lost Dog Cafe

Juice+

Sweet Frog

Virginia Hospital Center

Be the Match

Men's Health Network

Watt, Tieder, Hoffar and Fitzgerald



A Place at the Table

Thanks to Yolande Miller and Jane Duffield for organizing our viewing of the Place at the Table hunger documentary. About 20 people attended and learned more about the real face of hunger in America, especially as it affects children. We are hoping to put our faith and concern in action by providing Power Packs to Lemon Road Elementary School. Stay tuned for more info.

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

Left side Main Menu

<http://www.idylwoodpresbyterian.org>

IPC Calendar is on-line at

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



December 2013

Comments or suggestion?
chevalforceopp@gmail.com

