

# Idylwood



# PANORAMA

## Newsletter of Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Volume XLII, No.. 4

Hello friends,

This week a pastor friend posted this poem/prayer to Facebook. It may be coming soon to a worship service near you, but I also wanted to share it with you today:

*This is my church.  
It is composed of people like me.  
We make it what it is.  
It will be friendly, if I am.  
Its pews will be filled, if I help to fill them.  
It will do great work, if I work.  
It will make generous gifts to many causes,  
if I am a generous giver.  
It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship,  
if I bring them.  
It will be a church of loyalty and love,  
of fearlessness and faith,  
and a church with a noble spirit -  
if I, who makes it what it is, am filled with these things.  
Therefore, with the help of God,  
I shall dedicate myself to the task of being  
all the things that I want my church to be.*

(Author unknown)

I love that... and I'm also challenged by it. Sometimes we think, "If only the church would \_\_\_\_\_." The lovely and grim and holy truth is, we are the church. It's up to us to make our community what we'd like it to be.

Not that we ever do this perfectly. But through the Holy Spirit, we continue to strive and support one another.

**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](mailto:pastor@idylwoodpresbyterian.org)

**Clerk of Session: Cara Dobbins**

**Treasurer : Dana Opp**

**Pastor Emeritus**  
**Leonard B. Sirbaugh**

Administrative Asst. - Amy Moore  
[admin@idylwoodpresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@idylwoodpresbyterian.org)

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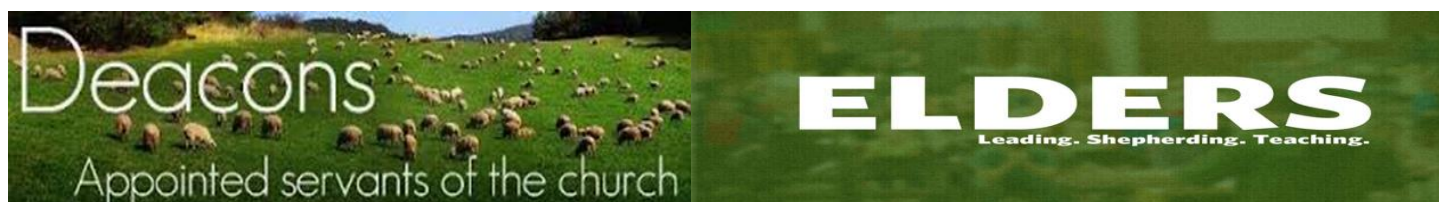
[www.idylwoodpresbyterian.org](http://www.idylwoodpresbyterian.org)

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Last weekend I participated in the installation of my friends Meg and Jarrett McLaughlin as co-pastors of Burke Presbyterian Church, where I served as associate pastor before coming to IPC. The preacher was a pastor who had worked with Meg and Jarrett in their previous call. When he told people he'd be preaching at their installation, they said, "Look around while you're there and make sure they're 'home.'" But of course, he said, the church is never our home, not really---not our *true* home, because the church always falls short of being God's beloved community. But the beauty of the church is, we can often see home from where we are, just like God showed Moses the Promised Land from the top of Mt. Nebo.

In that spirit, here is one way you might help the church be what it is called to be:



Our nominating committee is making calls and having conversation with folks who will be **called to serve as elders and deacons** in the church. We are looking to fill 2 elder slots, and at least 3 deacons slots (but hopefully more, so that the board of deacons can be at full capacity). Elders are charged with the leadership and governance of the congregation, and deacons provide hospitality on Sunday mornings (securing ushers and greeters) and care for people in need in our church and beyond. It is my joy to serve with our elders and deacons---they are an amazing group of folks. And many of them tell me how much serving helps them grow in their faith. Would you like to talk further about this kind of service in the church? Please speak to me or to Ed Case, Steve Dobbins, or Nancy Budny, our nominating committee.

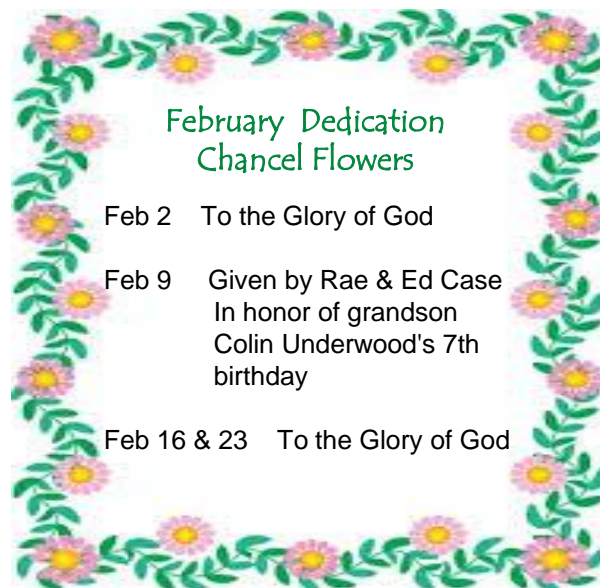
## Prayer List

### Joys

Greta Wright: recent move to Greenspring  
Cecilia Brammer: home from Cherrydale Rehabilitation Center  
IPC's support of Falls Church Homeless Shelter last week

### Concerns

Amy Moore's friend Tina: cancer  
Cecilia Brammer, Linda Tang: grief at death of husbands  
George Petras's aunt and uncle: 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.



### Chancel Flowers

On the Upton room bulletin board you will find a flower sign up sheet for all of 2014. Some Sundays have been signed up for but many remain unclaimed. Won't you volunteer to provide flowers for one or two Sundays or perhaps more?? I think you would agree the Falls Church Florist provides us wonderful beautiful flowers for the Chancel each Sunday and a very reasonable price of \$30 which includes delivery. Please sign up today and indicate to what honor that you dedicate the flowers too. Every Sunday that is not sponsored comes out of the Larrick fund and is indicated "To the Glory of God". We are also still looking for someone to manage the flower effort if you are at all interested please contact Dana Opp [rdopp3@gmail.com](mailto:rdopp3@gmail.com)



## Souper Bowl of Caring - February 2

Who are you cheering for -- The Broncos? The Seahawks? You can show your support for either team or both by putting \$1 or more in the soup pots presented after worship. But the real support is for hungry children in our community that benefit from our Power Packs campaign! All money contributed during the Souper Bowl of Caring will go directly to fund food purchases for the Power Packs. That food helps to sustain low income children attending Lemon Road Elementary over weekends, when they do not receive the additional school meals they enjoy during the week. So even if you don't give a hoot about the NFL Super Bowl game, please support this effort and help relieve hunger in our community!



### ***What do you want to be when you grow up?***

*Have you reached a certain point in your life  
and now are asking what is next?*

*Are you...*

*longing to do something more with your life?  
seeking deeper meaning for your life?*

*sensing that God might be spurring you to find new ways to use your gifts?*

If these questions jump out at you, then this retreat might just be for you -- an opportunity to pause and reflect on your life/work experience, identify your unique skills and important values, and listen for and discern direction in a caring and supportive environment.

### **Retreat Leader -- David Rich**

David has designed and led a wide variety of workshops including life/work planning, career exploration, retirement planning and "What is Your Mission in Life". He trained with Richard Bolles, author of "What Color is your Parachute". He is a retired PCUSA pastor and is the husband of Deborah McKinley, the pastor of the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean. David and Debbie live in Vienna.



## Third Sunday Guest Musicians – February 16 - Paschal Jam



**Paschal Jam** is an eclectic string band that puts a modern acoustic spin on many folk rock and traditional gospel and contemporary Christian songs, while interlacing strong melodic harmonies over the instrumental mix. Paschal Jam performs at a variety of venues during the year, both church and secular, including St. Peters in the Woods, Burke Presbyterian Coffee House Service, Coyote Grille, Burke and Vienna CROP Walks, Wesley Methodist, and Zabb Thai restaurant. A toe-tapping, sing-along good time is guaranteed for all!



### Regional Leadership Gathering

Saturday, February 22  
at Saint Mark Presbyterian in Rockville.

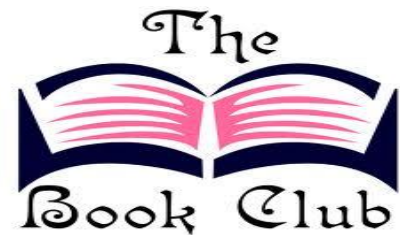
MaryAnn is co-chair of NEXT Church, which is a Presbyterian organization seeking to encourage vital, creative ministry in our congregations. We're planning to have a group from IPC attend. It will be an inspiring day of equipping for ministry. Want to know more? Talk to MaryAnn.



**T4: Thursday Theology  
Talk... on Tap  
February 20 , 7:30 p.m.**

1690 Anderson Road  
McLean, VA 22102  
703-356-5678

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.



**Sunday, February 2, after church** with a "book lovers' brunch"---bring a favorite book you've read recently and we'll share these titles and add to our individual reading lists! We'll also plan our meetings for the rest of the spring. Light refreshments served.

**Idylwood Presbyterian Church**



### Rides

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

### Treasurer's corner

### Pledge wrap up

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 may email Dana Opp, our treasurer, at [rdopp3@gmail.com](mailto:rdopp3@gmail.com) or drop your pledge in the Sunday offertory in an envelope marked for the IPC Treasurer - PLEDGE. Please respond as soon as possible so we may plan for 2014!!!

### 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.

#### • **Stock giving**

We now have the capability to accept stocks that you may want to dispose of. Stock giving supports both the donor and IPC. If you have stock that has appreciated significantly you may gift it to IPC and be relieved of paying capital gains as well as a charitable donation. We have several members/donors who are using this as a means to give to the church. **If you are interested in doing this please see Dana Opp for details.**

#### • **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.



### *Birthdays This Month*

Alice Clark	3 Feb
Mark Rindone	4 Feb
Caroline Dana	12 Feb
Doug Roark	17 Feb
James Duffield (son)	20 Feb
Don Palmer	21-Feb

# Deacons Corner

By Don Palmer

On behalf of the deacons, I'd like to wish everyone a happy and healthy (and hopefully not so cold) month of February, 2014.

Maybe being stuck inside on a freezing cold day tends to give a person time to think and reflect on years past. Some of my fondest memories involve things I've done over my years as a deacon. What I have appreciated most as a deacon is the many opportunities to help others. Sometimes we help by financial support from the deacons' fund and sometimes by actual work and assistance. All of us at IPC want to help others of course, but sometimes we ask ourselves "what can I do by myself?" Being a deacon gives a person a resource and a framework to discover many tangible everyday ways to help others. This is true of many fine organizations, but the IPC deacons is the group that I have been blessed to be a part of personally. And it has been a genuine blessing to me.

I recall one Saturday in September of 2001, just four days after the 9/11 attacks. I was, like everyone else, very sad and preoccupied with what had happened. On that Saturday, a family from Peru was moving into an apartment in Manassas. The mother had gotten a job teaching Spanish at a local school. They were a wonderful, lovely family just beginning a new life here and needed help getting set up. I don't really recall if this was an official deacon project or just some IPC people helping out others in need. What I do remember was that it was a very long, hard day of moving furniture into an apartment building with no elevator. When we were finally done with our work, I was absolutely exhausted and had a few aches and pains. (I had an office job and was not used to physical labor.) The father of the family took us all out to a Chinese restaurant in Manassas. I don't recall the name of the restaurant or know if it is still open, but it was the finest food I have ever had in my life. (Hard work and hunger are best chefs!)

The best thing about that day, however, was not the food but that I was able to overcome my sadness and negative feelings. I realized that helping others is really one of the best ways to help yourself. It may sound selfish of me, but I think I got more out of the experience that I had contributed. And that is what I am taking away from being a deacon: it is better to give than to receive. This is something I had been told all my life, but it took that day in September 2001 to make it real to me. I guess sometimes I'm a slow learner.

I know that everyone at IPC is doing many things to help others whenever possible, if not as a deacon then with some other group or individually or through their offerings. That is why I want to wish all at IPC and everyone else a very blessed month ahead.

## Congratulations MaryAnn



Idylwood Presbyterian Church





**Don't Throw It Away!!**

**Help us, help others.**

Please consider taking a few extra seconds to clip Box Tops for Education to help raise money for Lemon Road Elementary School. By simply saving these labels and turning them in... the school gets cash. You can find these labels on many products including clothing, baking goods, cereals, frozen foods, paper products and much much more. A collection box will be in the narthex at church or you can send them to Rachel Osman, 7205 Friden Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043. Questions? Contact Leslie Osman at [losman@wthf.com](mailto:losman@wthf.com) or visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for more information. Thanks!!



Help support the House that Love Built – Ronald McDonald House, Twin Cities by simply popping that tab on the next canned beverage that you have. In memory of Jacob and Eric, we continue collecting and sending pounds of pop tops to RMH in Minnesota. The revenue generated by the recycling of these pop tops supports a significant part of the operating budget of this house which provides a stable home and support to as many as 48 families in crisis... and more than 95% of the time – they are fully occupied.

This is such a simple gesture – encourage your friends and family to do the same. Drop your tops off at church or contact Leslie Osman at [losman@wthf.com](mailto:losman@wthf.com) and we'll do the rest.



Greta Wright and guest preacher James Ellis

**Idylwood Presbyterian Church**

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**



February 2014

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

