

Idylwood



PANORAMA

Newsletter of Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Volume XLIII, No.. 8

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
Norm Gordon
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Clerk of Session: Leslie Osman

Treasurer : Dana Opp

Pastor Emeritus
Leonard B. Sirbaugh

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What do 2015 and A.D. 3 have in common?

It's commonplace when you read the newspaper to pine nostalgically for a nicer time, a gentler time, a time of greater stability and less confusion, when the world made sense and you knew what to expect from your community and nation.

If you're looking for such a time, do yourself a favor and skip 1st century Palestine as a candidate. Few times and places were more confusing and unstable. A Roman empire was flexing its muscles around the world while a puppet "king" was doing his best to establish his primacy among the Jewish people even if it meant forced pilgrimages back to hometowns for registrations and genocide for certain innocent demographics. Armed soldiers were ubiquitous, talk of revolt was commonplace, and there was nothing certain about the future.

It was into this setting that our Lord decided to be born. Not to offer any quick fixes or mass imprisonments of guilty parties nor to launch protests or advocate reforms. A baby was born. What sort of solution was that? One only the Lord of the Universe could orchestrate.

You see, divine solutions will never look like human ones. Our God's agenda will never mimic ours. Wonders to behold: that's what divine solutions will look like. But wonders that seem innocent, gentle, and maybe even impotent - for now.

What small, innocent, out of the way acts of divine intervention is the Lord calling you to consider this season? Is there an estranged relative He is wanting you to reach out to? Is there a disadvantaged member of the community who needs your assistance? Is there a conversation about public policy that needs to happen between you and someone 'across the aisle'? What an opportunity we have this Advent season to participate in little acts of wonder that God can use in His plan for a better world. Don't forget to include them on your agenda - along with all the usual holiday revelry!

And if you're looking for ideas, come to our Sunday worship and hear about ways you can serve - it's a start!

Here's to an ever more inspiring holiday season!

Grace & Peace,

Norm

Sermon

"Incarnation:
How Human Can God
Become?"

Christmas Eve Service

Thursday; December 24,
7:30pm

Join us for lessons,
candlelight and carols.



Save the Date

Prayer List

Joys:

Osman family new son

Concerns:

Virginia Morales: diagnosis of health concerns
Greta Wright: health concerns
Anne Stuckey: medical concerns
The Case's: Evelyn Comer, Rae's Aunt, health concerns.
George Petras' uncle
Ian: infant friend of Maria Holsopple
Kennedy Ladd: infant friend of the Budny's
Steve Allen: health concerns
Vicki Robb, friend of Nancy and Curt Budny: cancer diagnosis
Ann McCleary: health concerns
Kate Untiedt: medical concerns
Alison French: chronic illness
Linda Dono's brother -- healing and wholeness for all

IPC Advent Gathering and Dinner December 12th,

4pm gathering, meal 5pm

RSVP losman@wattieder.com

or

703-568-3892

We are blessed to have the Osman's hosting our
annual Christmas Party again this year.

Please join us to make new memories of our
annual Advent Diner at the Osman's home. The
Osman's are providing beverages and entrée.
Please consider bringing a favorite dish to share
or just bring yourself we always have plenty.

Chancel Flowers

On the Upton room bulletin board you will find a flower sign up sheet for 2015. 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". Please contact **Julie Tutwiler** bhenning5@verizon.net



December 2015

IPC Thanksgiving Pot Luck

Thanks to *Linda Tang and Crew* for organizing this great gathering.



IPC GIVINGS STATEMENTS UPDATE:

Please pick up your statements (for January-mid September) after service this Sunday. If you prefer to have your statement mailed to you, then please e-mail admin@idylwoodpresbyterian.org and Amy will be sure to send that out. **The statements are what we have in our records as of September 9, 2015**

We (Amy Moore, the counters and Dana Opp) have tried to properly identify where the donations that you have so graciously provided for the Lord's work. To that end please review your individual statement with a keen eye towards making sure we have not made an error. If you believe that we have made any errors please help us correct this with the following information:

- 1) Sunday given date
- 2) Check date
- 3) Check number
- 4) Check amount
- 5) Special instructions requested (special offering such as Deacons fund one of the 5 special offerings we supported last year or an identified "Memorial fund")

In the future, we will try to ensure that we get quarterly statements out to make things a bit easier on all of us.

If you have issue(s) with your statement PLEASE e-mail Amy (admin@idylwoodpresbyterian.org) and/or Dana (rdopp3@gmail.com) so that we may respond as quickly as possible.

*Sincerely and Peace,
Amy Moore
the counters
and Dana Opp*

2016 Stewardship Status

As of 9 December we have 19 Pledges for a total of \$55,684. We are about 10 pledges down from last year and short of covering our budget needs for 2016. For those who have not yet pledged you can do that anytime with the green card sent to you in the mail or emailing it directly to Dana Opp, Treasurer rdopp3@gmail.com



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

The Deacons are working hard to get our birthday list accurate.
If we miss a birthday or the date is wrong.
Let us know!



**Thanks to all who donated
to the College Kids Care
Packages**

Packages went out to: Victoria French, James Duffield, Megan Dobbins, Naomi, Wolfe, Sarah Rindone and Sybille Miller.

*Wishing them all joy in the new school
year!*

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December 2015
Comments or suggestion?
chevalforceopp@gmail.com

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