

# Idylwood



# PANORAMA

## Newsletter of Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Volume XLIII, No. 1

Dear IPC friends,

After all of the sermons and congregational meetings and goodbyes, there is one thing left to say, and that's thank you.

Thank you for sharing your life and your congregation with me for these past five years.

Thank you for the privilege of praying with you; visiting you in the hospital; baptizing your babies; cradling the dying, literally and figuratively; dreaming with you about how a small yet mighty church can serve its neighbors; sharing the bread of life and cup of salvation; singing songs of praise and lament; and sharing many, many cups and coffee and cheese balls with you.

Thank you for a gracious and heartfelt send-off. The gifts were perfect and thoughtful, and our family can still feel your hands on our shoulders as the prayer offered by Kate Untiedt reverberates in our hearts.

You will always be in our family's heart and prayers. As I said in the sermon, we are yoked together in Christ, the head of the church. He is our gravity. Although our orbits will not be as close together as they have been, and you will inevitably yoke with a new pastor and the many gifts he or she will bring, we will remain connected in the bonds of Christian friendship.

Some of you have asked how to keep in touch with us. Here is our contact information. Our contact will be limited in the immediate and near term, to give you the opportunity to establish a connection with your gap pastor, interim and installed pastor(s). It is right and fitting that we should do this. It is a gift that Jim Sirbaugh gave to me not to be overly involved in the affairs of the church and its members, and I will pass that gift to the next person.

7593 Woodstown Dr.  
Springfield, VA 22153  
mabob@yall.org (that address goes to both Robert and me)

Finally, I leave you with the Curt Bundy's lovely calligraphic inscription in the front of the leather-bound Glory to God hymnal you presented me. Forgive me for not reading it at the time--I wasn't sure I'd be able to get through it.

***"Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything." Plato***

***MaryAnn,***

***We are so grateful for all the gifts that you have shared with us over the last five years. We wish for you much happiness and success as you take flight to this new calling.***

***The Members of Idylwood Presbyterian Church***

The feeling is mutual, friends. 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.***



**GAP Pastor**  
**Diane Hutchins**  
**[hutchinsdiane@aol.com](mailto:hutchinsdiane@aol.com)**

**Clerk of Session: Leslie Osman**

**Treasurer : Dana Opp**

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

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

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## Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, March 8, 2015 @12:15 p.m. in the Upton Room



Join us for the annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 8th. On that day we will have worship at 11:00 a.m. Immediately following worship, we will gather in the Upton Room to elect officers: Elders and Deacons, hear committee reports and review the 2015 budget. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

The annual Congregational Meeting is a gathering at which the members of our congregation gather to hear about the health and vitality of our church, and make plans for the future God has put before us. Please join us for this important yearly gathering of the members of Idylwood Presbyterian Church.

### Prayer List

#### Joys:

Osman family new son

#### Concerns:

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

#### Concerns:

Carol Shuh's father Lewis: passed away

Dirk Holsopple: tests

Joel Cline's mother: ill

Nominating committee: for discernment for their work

Bob Osman: recovering from surgery

Nancy Budny: recovering from foot surgery

Osman family: adoption process

Steve Allen: health concerns

Jim Duffield's mother: passed away

Vicki Robb, friend of Nancy and Curt Budny: cancer diagnosis

Ann McCleary: health concerns

Greta Wright: upcoming surgery

Kate Untiedt: medical concerns

Doug Comer (passed away) and Suzanne Meloeny (surgery for breast cancer), Ed Hartz: Ed and Rae Case

Doug Roark's friend Ken: passed away

All those looking for work

Cecilia Brammer, Linda Tang: grief

George Petras's aunt and uncle: assisted living

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.



**Rev. Diane Olsen  
Hutchins  
has agreed to  
serve as our Gap  
Pastor.**

She will be with us for the next few months as we make preliminary decisions about the future of our ministry here at Idylwood. This is Interim #12 for Diane, who has been at work in National Capital Presbytery since 1987. She was a high school English teacher, who found herself working as a Christian Educator for six churches before she went to seminary. She graduated from Wesley Theological—a Methodist Seminary in DC—and has now served six churches as their interim pastor—Manassas, Leesburg, Calvary in Alexandria, Burke, the United Christian Parish in Reston before coming to us here at Idylwood. Last year she served as Moderator of the Presbytery, where she still has some responsibilities for presbytery business and our meetings. She and her husband, Dave, live in Burke. They have three adult children, and four granddaughters.

### March

#### Dedication Chancel Flowers

March 1:

March 8:

March 15: From the Cline's in celebration of Jonah's birthday and in memory of William Cline's birthday (Joel's dad).

March 29: Palm Sunday.  
Cheval and Dana Opp in celebration of Cheval's father, Robert H. Force, on April 4



### 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

MaryAnn – your connection to our family will last a lifetime whether we see you each Sunday or not. We are so grateful for your leadership at church, your ability to help us think outside of the box, your bravery during our darkest moments and most of all for your friendship. I'm sure our paths will cross again because God brings people into our lives for a reason. We love you! Bob, Leslie and Rachel... Eric and Jacob



Dear MaryAnn:  
Thank you for re-introducing me to church. I visited IPC because I was intrigued by the outdoor banner announcing your arrival. Being raised as a Baptist, I had never had a female pastor. I have loved every one of your sermons; it always seems like you've crafted your message with me in mind. I will miss you in the pulpit and in the church community.  
Ceresa

MaryAnn,  
I always looked forward to hearing your sermons when I was visiting in Falls Church. You seem to give an insightful and timely twist to the scripture and sermon topic as well as telling intriguing anecdotes to illustrate your points. I'll miss that opportunity. Best of luck in your new endeavors. Becky Jacobs, Big Rapids, MI



All the Best as you fill and write the next chapters of your life. We Love You,  
Kate and Willa

MaryAnn,  
It has been such a pleasure working with you. Thank you for all of your guidance and support. Not only were you a really cool pastor but also a great friend! I pray for more success on your new endeavor. Thanks again for everything,  
Amy Moore



Idylwood Presbyterian Church



We will be supporting the  
Fall Church Homeless Shelter in March.  
Look for the sign-up sheet.

The Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter was created to address the critical need for emergency housing in the community, especially during the winter months. In partnership with New Hope Housing, the "Friends" manage and operate the Shelter providing warm beds, meals, and counseling to the homeless in Falls Church from December through March, and offer year round case management for Shelter residents.

We take pride in being a grassroots organization. Over 200 volunteers each year lend their support and the Board of Directors, composed of volunteers, is responsible for management of operations, recruiting volunteers, fundraising, and contracting. Approximately 80% of the funds required to run the Shelter has come from private sources, including individuals, faith communities, businesses, schools, and foundations.

The mission of the Friends of the Falls Church Homeless Shelter, Inc. is to better the lives of single adults who are experiencing homelessness in the Falls Church area by providing temporary shelter and other services and assisting these individuals to access permanent affordable housing and/or services needed to maintain a stable housing environment.



Do You Know a Group that  
Needs to Rent Space.

IPC currently has several groups using our space and we would like to find more.

1. Writing Workshop by Hildie Block
2. Two AA Meetings
3. ALANON Meeting
4. Korean Church

Let Cheval know if you think you have a good candidate. [chevalforceopp@gmail.com](mailto:chevalforceopp@gmail.com).



Dave	Dunlap	6 March
Timothy	Caracciolo	5 March
Martha	Bentzen	5 March
David	Morgan	10 March
Kate	Untiedt	10 March
Jonah	Cline	13 March
Steve	Dobbins	13 March
David C.	Wolfe	14 March
Sharon	Caracciolo	19 March
Carol	Shuh	29 March

## Birthdays This Month

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



### Rides

If you need a ride to church  
please call **Don Palmer**  
before 6pm on Friday  
Cell: 571-232-0335.

Dear MaryAnn,  
 You had a tough job when you arrived. Not only was our congregation mourning Jim's retirement but we also had lots of personal challenges – sickness, struggles, deaths. You helped us thrive. I wish that you were able to stay involved with us on your personal faith journey. But I know you'll be great at whatever you tackle.  
 Linda



"Thank you for your leadership and friendship, MaryAnn! All the best as you transition to sharing your thoughts and inspirations to even more people. \*hugs\* - Maria"



You have been with the Case family and so many others in sunshine and in shadow; we are grateful you shared our journey. You and your beautiful family will be missed! Love, Ed and Rae

"Good luck, wishing you all the best in your new direction."  
 Bill Hylton



Dear MaryAnn,  
 I don't worry about the future of the church because I know you and many other fine young Presbyterians. You have unfailingly been an inspiration to me. God bless you!  
 Carol Shuh





“What are we going to do?!?”  
“What will happen to us?”



These are just a couple of the questions that many of us have asked ourselves after hearing the news that Rev. MaryAnn will be leaving us February to follow a career in writing and speaking.

Well, the Session at IPC wants you to know that we DO know what we are going to do and that we WILL be just fine. Already, we have met with representatives from Presbytery and, as they pointed out, this is the type of situation when it is especially great to be a Presbyterian. And that is because we, the members of IPC, are in complete control over who our next minister will be. However, we don't have to navigate the waters alone. We have many resources and tremendous support from Presbytery to help us along the way.

And the first step in the process is something that is relatively new to Presbytery and that is the selection of a Gap Pastor.

What is a Gap Pastor?

Upon MaryAnn's departure, the Gap Pastor would come on board to help fulfill the immediate needs of the congregation -- lead and preach at Sunday worship, moderate Session, meet with the Board of Deacons, and perform routine pastoral care, as necessary. Having the consistency of a Gap Pastor, allows us to be able to focus on the important next steps of hiring an Interim Pastor, and eventually, MaryAnn's replacement.

It is likely that the Gap Pastor at IPC will be a 1/2 time position (rather than MaryAnn's 2/3 time). It is possible for the Gap Pastor to go on to serve as the Interim Pastor, but only if both parties, IPC and the Gap Pastor, mutually agree to that arrangement. If this does not happen, the Gap Pastor may help the Session establish an Interim Pastor Search Committee.

Presbytery has already sent us the names and resumes of trained and willing Presbyterian pastors who are interested in serving as the Gap Pastor for IPC. Session will be acting quickly on this so that we can move seamlessly into this next phase.

We are all experiencing varying emotions to the news of MaryAnn's impending departure. This is to be expected, and you should feel free to express any concerns and uncertainty. Change is often a difficult process but, as we have learned in past, it can also be a time of growth and new beginnings. So, it is important that we move forward positively, with the momentum and energy that MaryAnn helped to foster in our church and which has carried us over the last several years. The Session will do our best to answer any of your questions about these next steps. And we should all be encouraged knowing that the Presbytery is here to support us as we find our way down this new path.

Peace,

Jane Duffield and Leslie Osman, on behalf of IPC session

## Sunday March 15, 2015 Special Music Guest

### Johannah Rockwell

a Northern Virginia native, began singing when she was about age 5. She wrote her first song at age 10. When she was 12 she began to take voice lessons from her mother, a trained singer. Johannah started her college studies at the Esther Boyer College of Music at Temple University in Philadelphia and then transferred to Belmont University in Nashville where she got her degree in commercial vocal performance. While living in Nashville Johannah had the opportunity to intern at Crossfield Music publishing company, study with professionals in the music industry, and sing regularly with studio musicians in the Christian music industry.

Currently Johannah works as an executive assistant and operations manager at a non-profit organization in DC, and attends Christ the Redeemer Church in Fairfax, where she sings on the worship team.



Third Sunday Musician

## Deacon's Corner

On behalf of the IPC Board of Deacons, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2015.

Now begins a new year, IPC's 101<sup>st</sup>, full of promise and opportunities. And, like all years, 2015 will be a year with changes and surprises. This was certainly true on January 4<sup>th</sup>, when we learned of MaryAnn's decision. It seems like only a few months ago that MaryAnn joined us. It's hard to believe that it's been five years, but it has been five wonderful years. MaryAnn's sense of humor, patience and kindness have made it a pleasure for us deacons when we worked with her. I have many fond memories, as I'm sure the other deacons do.

I have enjoyed her fresh ideas and informality during the worship services, which were always joyful and thought-provoking. There are far too many examples to mention here, so I will only briefly mention a few.

I recall one time that MaryAnn used the exact number of words in her sermon as in Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. This was not only a thoughtful tribute to our greatest president, but it also created the unusual sensation of leaving church that Sunday thinking "the sermon was too short!" And personally, I was honored to hear MaryAnn read from one of my "Deacons' Corner" article as part of her sermon one Sunday. We have also enjoyed the special evening services around Easter and Christmas.

We also appreciate her and Robert singing in the choir. And I cannot fail to mention their three wonderful children who have enlivened our Sunday mornings. So much to miss, so little time left.

The deacons would like to wish MaryAnn and her family the very best in all their future endeavors and hope they return often to visit us. We are grateful for the happy memories of the last five years and wish there could have been 20 or 30 years more, but we must trust that God knows what is best and will guide us through this change.

Blessings to all. *Don Palmer*

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**March 2015**

Comments or suggestion?  
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