

Idylwood



PANORAMA

Newsletter of Idylwood Presbyterian Church

Volume XLIII, No. 9

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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Clerk of Session: Leslie Osman

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My grandfather was a Presbyterian medical missionary who was sent by the Southern church in 1937 and started a hospital in Rio Verde, Goias, a rural town several hours SW of Brasilia, the then new capital of the country. It grew into a large regional hospital still serving the community today. My father and his three siblings grew up there.

Other than my father, who was a scientist, all the siblings continued ministry work, either in medicine or church work, in Brazil. When their children graduated from high school, they came to study in the U.S. and their first stop was our house in Gaithersburg.

Needless to say, the Gordon clan has maintained close ties over the years. We had a clan reunion in 1974, another one in 1996, and so it was not unprecedented to call all family members – from as far away as China and Nigeria – to gather in a hotel resort outside of Sao Paulo for a reunion extravaganza.

One side of the clan are half-Brazilian (my aunt married a Brazilian) so they hosted. If you've never been around Brazilians, you should know that they are warm, friendly, laid-back, and exceedingly hospitable. We were very well taken care of.



There were 78 family members present: 7 from my parents' generation, 20+ of my generation, and over 40 kids.

Continued on next page.....

The cost was enormous but the ties across the miles that it created were well worth it. My father, who is essentially the patriarch of the family at this point, was beaming the whole way.



Every morning, we began with devotions. My aunt told us that one of our grandfather's favorite life verses was 2 Samuel 24:24 where David is offered an altar for free to sacrifice offerings: **"No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing."** There was a lot of personal and family cost to the hospital my grandfather built. Many Brazilians are still benefiting from his sacrifice.



In addition to lots of recreational activities during the day, we held a variety/talent show every night which I MC'ed. It included musical numbers, skits, dances, history lessons from the family legacy, family jokes, and much more.



Whereas the last reunion was really for our generation, at this one we hoped that our children's generation would be able to bond. And bond they did. First, second, and third cousins bonded as if they were sisters and brothers. Some were meeting each other for the first time.



We find nurture and spiritual support in many ways. It is a blessing when it comes from family. No matter where you find family – maybe at IPC! – may it continue to guide and comfort you as you walk with the Lord.

Prayer List (needs to updated)

Joys:

Carol Shuh: successful cataract surgery
Virginia Morales: freedom from fainting spells
Greta Wright: 25 years of being cancer free
Cheval & Dana: oral surgery over and successful

Concerns:

Discernment at Congregational Meeting (February 21)
Shawn Carpenter's aunt: aggressive cancer
College students heading back to school
Anne Stuckey: medical 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
All those looking for work
Alison French: chronic illness
Linda Dono's brother -- healing and wholeness for all

Sermon Calendar

14 Feb **Lent Begins**

Jesus' Power/Inclusiveness/Bounty

21 Feb **Discipleship**

28 Feb **Jesus' Faithfulness/Our Faithlessness**

6 Mar **Communion Children**

13 Mar **Trial/Temptation/Challenge of Discipleship**

20 Mar **Palm Sunday Obedience**

25 Mar **Good Friday Love**

27 Mar **Easter Discipleship**



Christmas Eve Service 2015

Photos from Ceresa Haney



Advent Dinner

We were blessed to have the Osman's host our Advent Dinner on Saturday December 12th. The Osman's provided beverages and entrées and everyone brought along a favorite dish to share with everyone. A good time was had by all and the weather was unseasonably warm many sat on the deck and enjoyed the fire. .

- 24 Feb Collat – **To Beautify the Sanctuary**
- 14 Feb Duffield – **Celebration of James' 21st Birthday**
- 21 Feb Morgan – **In Honor of Frankie Morgan**
- 28 Feb Opp – **In remembrance of Cheval and Dana's anniver4say on January 1st.**
- 6 Mar **Les & Marlena Watt – In memory of Marlena's mother, Luisa Susaya, who died in 2006.**
- 13 Mar **Cline – In remembrance of Joel's father birthday and in celebration of Jonah's 9th birthday**
- 20 Mar **open for dedication** 🌸🌺🌻🌹🌷🌾🌽🌿🍀🍁🍂🍃🍄🍅🍆🍇🍈🍉🍊🍋🍌🍍🍎🍇🍈🍉🍊🍋🍌🍍🍎
- 27 Mar **Easter Flowers**
- 3 April Opp – **In remembrance of Cheval's father, Robert Hue Force, birthday.**

Chancel Flowers

On the Upton room bulletin board you will find a flower sign up sheet for 2016. 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



Prayers for You
Submitted by Linda Tang

Prayers for your Happiness
 Prayers for your Peace
 Prayers that your Faith
 and your Hope will increase
 Prayers for your Comfort
 on troublesome days
 Prayers that Life's Goodness
 will always Amaze
 Prayers you'll find Courage
 when breaking new ground
 Prayers when you're lost
 Love will turn things
 Prayers for small around Graces
 for Dreams to come true
 Prayers for a person
 who is Cherished
 That's YOU!

January & February 2016

Kate Untiedt putting a team together!

Date- Saturday, April 30th, 2016

Run for the Children 8K Race and 3K Run/Walk Spring 2016

Fairfax CASA invites you to the sixth annual Run for the Children 8K Race and 3K Run/Walk. Stay tuned for updates. Be a part of this special event – raise awareness and much needed funds to support CASA volunteers as they advocate for abused and neglected children in our community.

Run. Walk. Donate. Every child deserves a happy childhood.

View pictures from past events in our [photo gallery](#). For more information, please visit www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com.



November 22, 2015 Joint pot-luck with Korean Church was awesome!



Baby Mariah Asare looking at her big sister Diana



Greta at church - catching up with Barbara and Cecilia



Sam and Diana discuss the service over cheese balls

IPC GIVINGS STATEMENTS UPDATE:

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 year end statements were mailed on Wednesday February 10th to **everyone**. No statements were emailed. 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")

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*



Peggy	Elliot	2-Jan
Craig	French	11-Jan
Mark	Rindone	4-Feb
Doug	Roark	17-Feb
James (son)	Duffield	20-Feb
Donald A.	Palmer	21-Feb

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



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January/February 2016
Comments or suggestion?
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