



IPM E-Connections

December 12, 2009

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Dear Friends,

With another year coming to a close, and the Holiday Season upon us, IPM remains full of activity, reminding us of the promise we celebrate at this time of the year. Throughout what has been an undeniably difficult year for so many of us, IPM's Project Partners have continued their remarkable work around the world, our donors have not wavered in their commitment to IPM, and an endless stream of friends have demonstrated their deeply-held belief in our mission. Through volunteer efforts, participation in Immersion Experiences, and inviting new members of the "IPM Family" to learn more about our work, they have helped share the promise enabled through IPM these past 35 years. There is perhaps no better reminder of the true hope of this season and of the coming new year, than the network of individuals that comprise IPM's presence in the world.

As we look forward to Christmas, Hanukah, and the New Year, I am reminded as well of the words of the Hebrew Prophet Isaiah whose vision of a new world to come continues to inspire Christians, Jews, Muslims, and others the world over:

The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the panther lie down with the kid,  
calf, lion and fat-stock beast together,  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear will graze,  
their young will lie down together.  
The lion will eat hay like the ox.  
The infant will play over the den of the adder;  
the baby will put her hand into the viper's lair.  
No hurt, no harm will be done

on all my holy mountain,  
for the country will be full of knowledge of Yahweh  
as the waters cover the sea.  
(Isaiah 11:6-9)

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of E-Connections, featuring just a few of the milestones and initiatives happening through IPM. From the graduation of 22 children from kindergarten at *Lidia Coggiola*, to the holiday concert series in New York City to benefit IPM, there is much for which to be joyful. May Isaiah's prophetic vision of a world at peace continue to inspire and guide us in our time with IPM in the weeks and years ahead.

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season and peace-filled New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Cistone

Executive Director

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### **Happy Holidays from *Speranza II: Project of Hope (ITALY)***

We recently received a note from Anthonia Ugheighele, Project Coordinator of *Speranza II*, IPM's Project Partner in Italy. *Speranza II* provides training, shelter, and other services to women who were illegally trafficked from Africa

into Italy.

#### ***COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON!***

*We are all doing very well here, only that some of the children had a severe cold, but we thank God they are well now.*

*Part of the major activities we shall be having during the holidays include a "Father Christmas" show which will be sponsored by a group of local boys on the 23rd. We also plan to go for outing to celebrate the holiday, like visiting Vatican City or a recreational centre.*

*Greetings to everyone and Merry Christmas  
Sr. Anthonia*



*Women of IPM Project Partner, Speranza II, in Italy, gathered in the living room of the Project's facilities, which offers shelter and training to victims of human trafficking.*

## ***HUM Featured in Times of India***

[Click here](#) to read an article highlighting a recent partnership between *HUM*, IPM, and Central Michigan University's Clean Water Initiative. IPM has been working with the Central Michigan University group to launch a pilot project with the women of *HUM* in Ahmedabad, INDIA, implementing the bio-sand HydrAid water filters. The filters are greatly effective in reducing contaminants in the water and as a result, the rate of water-borne illnesses. As part of this initiative, Joe Cistone, Executive Director, and Innocent Edache, Graduate Student Fellow for Programs & Partnerships, travelled to Central Michigan University on December 1, 2009 for the school's World Water Event, which brought together a network of supporters and individuals interested in collaboration for the clean water program in India.

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## ***Lidia Coggiola (Zaragoza, EL SALVADOR) Graduates 22 Students to 1st Grade***



*Marta, a teacher at Lidia Coggiola Kindergarten, and one of the school's newest graduates, who will be moving on to first grade next year.*

Congratulations to the 22 boys and girls of the *Lidia Coggiola* kindergarden class who recently celebrated their graduation. All 22 students will be continuing on to the first grade. In the words of Carlos Diaz, Project Coordinator:

"We celebrated the graduation of 22 boys and girls who will continue next year to the first grade, despite the destruction of Hurricane Ida. During the graduation of the children, there emerged a sense of hope for our community, in forming and bringing into society individuals with critical and independent minds, formed in solidarity. It is in that way that we continue to fight...ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE."

To view video of the graduation ceremony, [click here](#) or visit *Lidia Coggiola's* Youtube channel at [www.youtube.com/patronato07](http://www.youtube.com/patronato07). IPM is proud to continue to partner with this remarkable Project, changing the lives of children in the community of Zaragoza, EL SALVADOR. To make a contribution allowing our partnership and support to continue, [click here](#).

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## **2010 Immersion Experience Program Opportunities**

Consider joining us on an Immersion Experience in 2010! IPM is pleased to offer several open Immersion Experiences, and we also have availability for families, friends, schools, and congregations to organize an Immersion Experience of their own. Contact Tiffany Lee at [tlee@ipmconnect.org](mailto:tlee@ipmconnect.org) or +1.216.932.4082 for more details.

Below is a preview of some of our special open Immersion Experiences in 2010 that provide a personal and life-changing opportunity to be with and learn from some of IPM's most extraordinary Project Partners. More destinations, dates, and details to be announced soon!

NEPAL-March 2010 with IPM Executive Director, Joseph Cistone

EL SALVADOR- April 2010, a special IEP to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the assassination and martyrdom of Archbishop Oscar Romero with Rev. John Lentz of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, USA

NICARAGUA-April 2010 with IPM Executive Director, Joseph Cistone

KENYA-July 2010 with IPM Executive Director, Joseph Cistone

EL SALVADOR- November 28-December 5, 2010, a moving opportunity to join IPM in a celebration of the life and ongoing work inspired by the four North American churchwomen martyrs: Maura Clark, Jean Donovan, Ita Ford, and Dorothy Kazel.

To join one of these Immersion Experiences, or for more information, contact Tiffany Lee at [tlee@ipmconnect.org](mailto:tlee@ipmconnect.org), or +1.216.932.4082.

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### **"Daniel Reichard's Gettin' on the Good List" Benefit Concerts for IPM**

Daniel Reichard, one of the original stars of Broadway's megahit JERSEY BOYS, returns to the New York City concert stage in his new show *Daniel Reichard's Gettin' on the Good List* at the Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theatre December 12th, 13th, and 14th.

In the spirit of the old-fashioned Christmas variety specials, he will be singing the hits of artists such as Bing Crosby, George Gerswhin, Weird Al Yankovic, Coldplay, Alicia Keys, and Paul Williams. Christmas classics will be sung and before you can say "Bah Humbug" you'll be officially in the holiday spirit!

Shows are scheduled for:

Saturday December 12th 11 PM (with 9 PM VIP Cocktail Party)

Sunday December 13th 7 PM (with a 9 PM VIP Cocktail Party)

Monday December 14th 8 PM (with a 10 PM VIP Cocktail Party)

All proceeds for this event go to benefit the work of IPM.

To purchase tickets, or for more information, [click here](#).



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### **Martyred El Salvador Jesuits Honored by Salvadoran Government**

In a show of extraordinary political change, on November 16, El Salvador President, Mauricio Funes, presented the nation's highest honor to the six Jesuit priests who were assassinated along with their housekeeper and her daughter, in 1989. This gesture also included the nation's Minister of Defense indicating willingness to open the military archives to investigators regarding federal involvement in these assassinations. For the country of El Salvador, this action is a remarkable testament to the social and political change that occurred in the last presidential election.

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