



The Ivy Vine

2013
April

New Life



pastordan@ivychapel.org

In the month of March, this space offered you a reflection on "Devotion." As I am writing this, Easter Sunday is drawing near. By the time you receive it, God's Church will be midstream in Eastertide - a.k.a. "the Great Fifty Days."

"New life follows repentance." These words were part of the very first entry in the book (Followers of the Cross) that many of us read for daily devotions during the Lenten Season this year. Author Martin Marty emphasized throughout that Christians are blessed with an opportunity to be disciples. We do not "have to" follow. Our joy is that we "get to" follow Christ.

Christ does all that Christ can for us. It's all in the Early Church's "Philippian Hymn" (incorporated into Apostle Paul's Letter to the Philippians 2:5-11). True, Christ emptied himself; humbled himself; and gave himself up to death on the cross for all humankind. And, yes, God exalted Christ—highly exalted him!—with a name above all names, that forever will be met by bending knees and confessing tongues. It is this spectacular truth that we sing: "Jesus paid it all. All to him I owe. Sin had

left a crimson stain. He washed it white as snow."

Christ Jesus does all that he can. Yet, action is required of us. We must realize that Christ cannot **repent "for us."** Christ offers us new life. Christ gives his life for us. However, we must repent ourselves. There is only so much that Christ can do for us. New life only follows if we act. New life follows our action. To receive new life, we must repent and continue repenting. God's tremendous gift of "new life" demands our participation. Repentance... and then, new life follows. **"New life follows repentance."**

For the Resurrection of Christ to mean anything, our way of living must continue changing. The love of Jesus Christ is not stagnant. Neither does the Grace of God, the Realm of God, the Son of God, the Spirit of God, or any Aspect of God stagnate.

God (and everything "of God"!) is dynamic. This is God's character and it is the character which God wants us to display. We are created in the image of God to reflect God. This requires ongoing, emerging, dynamic devotion to God.

And being found
in appearance as
a man, he
humbled
himself by
becoming
obedient to
death—
even death
on a cross!

Philippians 2:7-8



(Continued on page 2)

Resurrection Day is “The” Event—the definitive act of God—which empowers us to proclaim, “Christ is risen!” In the Early Church, this exclamation was used in tandem with another exclamation. First, one believer would lead off, proclaiming, “Christ is risen!” Then, the one initially addressed would respond, “Risen indeed!”

This was an impressive, mutual testimony given by our ancestors in the faith. Early on, it was a dangerously bold proclamation of Christ’s Resurrection. Imagine if people today increasingly began living in ways **responsive to one another** and ultimately responsive **to God**. What if we were to press on toward the “upward call of God in Christ”? What if we each applied ourselves to living in this manner? I’ll tell you what! This world would become an even more beautiful place than it already is!

The miracle of Easter is powerful enough to enable us to live this way; being responsive to God and to one another. No one can go it alone. Loving God is demanding. Loving God is rewarding. God in Christ Jesus encourages us to care for ourselves as well as for others. First, we all need God’s help. In addition, human life includes times when we are not able to care for ourselves fully. During such stretches of time, we must rely on the “rest of the Body of Christ.” My friends, you and I have been heavily schooled in “carrying our own weight,” which makes it difficult for us to accept help. It’s a fine line—balancing self-care and care for others. When is it truly faithful for us to observe a needed Sabbath? When is it faithful for us to attempt serving more actively?

When we ask, God will show us. You and I must call on God for help finding a healthy balance. God offers guidance. Simply ask. Pray, and God will reveal a clear, personal direction for you. Offer God this prayer: **“A kernel of your wisdom, a drop of your light, a morsel of your grace; that we may faithfully love you, God. Amen.”**

The miracle of Easter is powerful.
God gives **New Life**,
Pastor Dan

God’s blessings are raining down.
Walk with your face lifted up;
Lift your hands also to receive
The gift of God’s presence,
The embrace of the One who is near.
- benediction from *d365.org*



At least there is **HOPE** for a tree:
If it is cut down,
it will **SPROUT** again,
and its new shoots
WILL NOT FAIL.

Job 14:7



Faith is daring the
soul to go beyond
what the eyes can
see.

For we walk by faith, not by sight.
2 Corinthians 5:7



April, 2013



ARK/ALPHA-OMEGA HIGHWAY CLEAN UP
DATE CHANGED TO SUNDAY APRIL 7

The Ark & Alpha-Omega (7th – 12th grade) Highway Cleanup scheduled for March 24 has been changed to Sunday, April 7 following worship. We will meet after worship on April 7 to clean up the portion of Woods Mill Road adopted by Ivy Chapel. After we finish cleaning we will eat pizza together. Bring money for pizza. Gavin Tichy is coordinating. Please let Gavin know if you will be here!

IVY CHAPEL RUMMAGE SALE

Sat. April 20, 8 a.m. until noon

Our Ivy Youth, led by Nelie McNeal, are organizing the annual Ivy Chapel Rummage Sale. We need your time as well as your “treasures”! A signup sheet will be coming soon. Let us know if you would be willing to donate a few hours of your time to make this sale a success! We need help with SORTING AND SET UP during the week of April 16 – 19, as well as the day of the sale, April 20. If you have things to donate, please bring them to church AFTER worship on Sunday, April 14 and put them in the cloakroom. Proceeds will be used to help the youth with the expenses of their summer mission trips, as well as supporting the child we adopt through World Vision, and other youth projects. Help our youth help others!



ALPHA-OMEGA/ARK RUMMAGE SALE LOCK-IN –Friday Night, April 19

Adults are needed to spend the night. See Linda Lowry.

ALL ALPHA-OMEGA & ARK YOUTH need to participate in this fundraiser.



ALL YOUTH (AND PARENTS) MAKE YOUR OWN PIZZA PARTY

Calling all youth from nursery to high school, and their parents!

Let's all spend some time together as we make our own pizzas. The Heend family will provide the dough and the sauce. Everyone bring their favorite pizza toppings and plan to come to Ivy's own pizzeria. We will get together the last weekend in April (final date TBD soon, pending youth availability) to practice our pizza making skills. Contact Sarah Heend with questions. Be watching your email for further information.



AN EPIC ADVENTURE AWAITS!

Kingdom Rock

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 22 – 26, 9 a.m. to noon

Volunteers Needed

Our first volunteer/organizational meeting was held March 14. We have lots of great people involved already, but more volunteers are needed. We'd love to have you. Our volunteers make our VBS great! Bible Storyteller, Chadder's Theater, Crafts, Recreation, Music, Snacks, and Nursery workers! And our all important crew leaders!

Can't work during the actual week of Vacation Bible School?? – We also need a Decorating Coordinator and people to help set up and take down!

See Erin Winship (elowry08@hotmail.com) or Linda Lowry (linda@ivychapel.org) to volunteer. Next meeting will be Thursday, May 9, but feel free to contact us any time. Registration forms are available now.



LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY 5: YOUTH SUNDAY

A SERVICE WRITTEN AND LED BY THE SR. HIGH YOUTH OF IVY CHAPEL UCC
AND GRADUATION SUNDAY:

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY GRADUATES, PLEASE LET LINDA KNOW SO THAT WE CAN
HONOR THEM ON GRADUATION SUNDAY!

ARK & ALPHA-OMEGA END OF YEAR LUNCH:

7TH – 12TH GRADE YOUTH GO OUT TO LUNCH FOR OUR "END OF THE YEAR" LUNCH!
CELEBRATE OUR YOUTH SUNDAY SERVICE, HAVE FUN EATING TOGETHER WITH YOUR FRIENDS,
AND GIVE A SEND-OFF TO THOSE WHO ARE GOING AWAY FOR THE SUMMER.

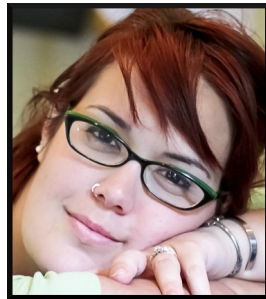
JOIN US FOR A "PRAISE PARTY"!!!

ALL THINGS NEW, LOOK WHAT GOD IS DOING

Registration is starting now for the 2013 camping season of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the UCC. Our theme this year "All Things New, Look What God is Doing". As part of our outdoor ministry programs, campers and participants will explore what God has done and is still doing for us in the modern day. Camps are available for many age groups. Check out the information on the Youth Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall. Brochures and registration forms are available.



The Note



Anna DiVesta, Minister of Music

music@ivy-chapel.org

Well, the ongoing saga of Aaron and I's house buying is nearing an end (maybe). We have put in an offer on a house in our neighborhood. I know the plan was to move closer to the church and Aaron's work, but what can I say...we love our neighborhood. We love our neighbors. We love our community. We also couldn't find what we were looking for in our price range with what we wanted in the community. We like the parks, the restaurants, the shopping all in walking distance. I know there are places where we could have found that in West County, but this just felt right. In my daily prayers, I have found myself not only thanking God for giving us the opportunity to purchase a home, but to lead us to the home which would be best for us. I think these prayers made it easier for me to let go of the two previous homes that fell through (that's right! 2!). The first one was just a disaster according to our inspector. The second one was ok. It truly felt like home, and truth be told, it took me a minute to get over that house. However, it had a leaky basement. (perhaps more leaky than the sellers would like to admit?) I found myself saying that the basement on the home we are proceeding with buying was miraculous. That's right, I used the word miraculous. Who knew I would ever think something as mundane as a basement would be miraculous? I know it may seem silly, but it stuck with me. This whole trying time, I've been asking to be led, and here I was...answering my own question. I know most of you know that I believe that everything happens for a reason. Maybe the two previous houses didn't work out, because this is where we are supposed to be. It may be silly, but I choose to believe that those houses wouldn't have worked for us, and this is the house we are supposed to have. Anyway, the plans are to close April 9th, and hopefully, move that week. I know those that helped us moved last time probably don't want to help again. (we have SO much stuff) But, if anyone can help (and wants to) at anytime during that week, we will not be turning down any offers of help. I promise if you do help us move, we will not be moving again for many years, and I'll buy lunch.

(One Note continued on page 6)

SINGING FOR IVY CHAPEL UCC

SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

Land of Lakes Boys Memorial Weekend: Great News! We, Ivy Chapel, will be hosting the Land of Lakes Boys Choir Memorial Day Weekend. Do you have a spare bed, couch or even floor space? We will need to house between 16-22 boys (ages 9-11). You would be responsible for bringing the boy(s) to the church Saturday and Sunday but will only have the boys in the evening. In return for our hospitality, the Land of Lakes Boys Choir will sing during service Sunday, May 26th. What a treat! For more information or to sign up to house a child, please see Anna DiVesta. I think this a great opportunity for both our church and the boys so please help make this possible by housing a boy or two. Thanks!!



St. Joseph Institute is offering *free hearing screens* to all adults and \$250 off a pair of hearing aids through to 4/30/2013. For an appointment and more information call 636-532-3211.

Mary^{and}Martha Group

The **Mary and Martha Meeting** on Mar. 19th began with a devotion with **Pastor Dan** who shared with us Scriptures, a story and thoughts about seeds, symbolic of spiritual growth in their potential for beauty and fruitfulness from small beginnings.

Following the devotion, refreshments were served. Plans for the coming months were made. Next month on April 16th we will help sort items for the Rummage Sale on Saturday April 20th. In May (21st) we plan a Salad Luncheon followed by a meeting and program involving Spring Plants for our gardens.

The St. Louis Assoc. UCC Women will be having their Spring Gathering on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at Eden Seminary from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. The cost is \$10.00 which includes lunch. More Information is on the Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall or see Kay Kreder.

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With all that said, what a busy time in the DiVesta household. So many things going on all at once. I once again find myself saying "I cannot wait for this to be over." I again have to remind myself to stop wishing the present away. It is just so hard for me to be thankful for today instead of wishing for the future. Anyway, I do not know where March has gone, and here it is, already April in the thick of Eastertide. What a glorious season. I truly hope you all had a blessed Easter spent with good food, friends, family and just general happiness. The harsh winds of winter have subsided and here we are in the spring. Spring is so beautiful with its new life; the flowers, the baby animals, the green grass. It is also a time to begin a new activity, choir perhaps. Come on, give it a shot. You know you want to. If you are interested in joining us, we would love to have you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

As always, if you are interested in performing a vocal/instrumental solo or in an ensemble, please see me. I am always up for new and exciting ideas to enhance our worship experience. It is also at this time that I start looking at the summer and coming up with solo and ensemble ideas for special music throughout the choir's off season. I look forward to hearing from you!

Until next time,
Smiles, *Anna-*

Trustees

The month of March involves mostly planning for the trustees who are getting ready to "spring forward" with much needed outdoor projects. Mulch has been purchased and spread to spruce up the flower beds around the front of the church. The first major workday of the year will be scheduled for a Saturday in April, stay tuned for further details. Equipment will be rented to help move wood chips and to clean the perimeter of Ivy Chapel grounds of unwanted honey suckle and encroaching vegetation. With this new energy the grass will surely grow fast and tall and the mowing season will soon begin. Mowing is needed almost weekly during the spring season and trustees are always looking for help with the mowing.

Ivy Chapel is fast approaching the 50th anniversary of faith, fellowship and facility. Some of the major "facility" items have been replaced recently and should be expected to perform flawlessly for several years. The new AC complimenting the new furnace was installed a few weeks ago and is ready to cool us off in July. Other things at Ivy may have been stored at Ivy for 50 years now and may need to be purged. It is the hope of the Trustees to identify some of those things and remove or relocate. There is a need to reorganize some of the storage areas for better performance and practicality. Other corresponding boards or members should review their "storage piles" and purge accordingly.

Members of Ivy may sometimes wonder if they can borrow certain assets or equipment that belongs to Ivy and its members. Maybe you're having a large graduation party and you need one or two large pots to cook 50 gallons of Sue Wilson's famous Cheese Burger soup. Well, members can borrow those items. Or perhaps a table or two? All you need to do is call "easy going" Ralph Weiland and let him know what?, when? and how much? Ralph has agreed to be the "go to" contact for such requests.

The trustees wish to thank Ivy members for the extra financial support of some projects above and beyond expectations recently and for some of their cautious requests to get things fixed. ☺

You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed
me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and
not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks
to you forever. Psalm 30:11-12

Scripture Worship

April 7~Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150,
Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-31



April 14~Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20), Psalm 30, Revelation 5:11-14,
John 21:1-19

April 21~Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

April 28~Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148, Revelation 21:1-6, John 13:31-35

Lectionary readings for UCC (NRSV): <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

[**John**] 20:19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe. 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."



INSTALLATION OF REVEREND BETTY SUE SHERROD
Christ Church, United Church of Christ, and the St. Louis Association of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ invite you to a service of worship marking the installation of the Rev. Betty Sue Sherrod as pastor.

Sunday, April 7 at 3pm
Christ Church, UCC

7126 Bruno Ave., Maplewood, MO

All are welcome.

INSTALLATION OF REVEREND KIM BRINKMANN

St. Mark United Church of Christ and the St. Louis Association of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ invite you to a service of worship marking the installation of the Rev. Kim Brinkmann as pastor.

Sunday, April 7 at 3pm

St. Mark United Church of Christ

1861 Missouri State Road, Arnold MO

All are welcome.

LYDIA'S HOUSE EVENTS!

Hello amazing Ambassadors!

We have two upcoming events to support Lydia's House.



»»**Cheer Station** - Come cheer runners to the finish line at Maryville's 5k Race Against Violence! Be the voice of hope for the women and children and Lydia's House as we come together to support ending domestic violence!

When: Sunday, April 7th from 12-2:30pm at
Maryville University

Sign Up Now: <http://vols.pt/wE35gG>

»»**Lydia's House Night at the Ball Park** - Join Lydia's House to cheer on the St. Louis Cardinals as they take on the Pittsburgh Pirates! Guests will receive a ticket to our section (located in the Left Field Pavilion) and a Lydia's House t-shirt to wear during the game! Tickets cost just \$25! We also have \$2 raffle tickets to win 4 Champions Club Passes, 4 seats behind home plate, or 4 passes to on-field batting practice.

When: Friday, April 26th at 7 pm

Register now:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e72mro9p2703b83f&llr=vjihwbdab>



God's Blessings and... Happy Birthday to...



Happy Anniversary to...



4/8/1967 Jim and Sandy Wilkins
4/11/1987 Tom and Debbie Glenn
4/26/2008 Jason and Kristine Lowry

1 Elizabeth Carr	21 Ray Buente
7 Rod Hertenstein	22 Myrna Weiland
10 Kyle Ray Johanna Wilson	26 Annie Sampath
12 Margaret Olver	27 Stan McNeal
18 Jeanne Medlock Ron Fix	30 Donna Grote

COMING IN APRIL!



Rummage Sale Sorting and Set Up
Tuesday, April 16– Friday, April 19

RUMMAGE SALE-SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 8AM-NOON

To see this newsletter in **color** you can view and download it from our website at <http://www.ivychapel.org/>

Also on our Web site! Past issues of The Ivy Vine Newsletters (articles due 15th of the month) and Pictures of Events with Ivy Chapel members.

On the member side are documents and other information for our members. If you do not know the password to access this page, please call the office.

Serving God's People



God has called us to our positions, and we rejoice when we are able to serve God in these places of ministry.



If there is some way in which our staff may be of help to you, please contact us at 314-434-4991.

Pastor Dan Wilson: pastordan@ivychapel.org 314-580-4564 Linda Lowry: linda@ivychapel.org
Anna DiVesta: music@ivychapel.org Frieda Clark: ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org
Monday/Friday 8:30AM–3PM Tuesday/Thursday 8:30AM–2:30PM

➤ **NEED TO BORROW** Chairs or Tables? Please call Ralph Weiland 314-878-3230.

CARE CORPS April: LEADER Donnagail Carr 314-609-0833
CARE CORPS May: LEADER Jan Wirtz 314-740-7385

CO-LEADER Judy Hertenstein 636-227-3885
CO-LEADER Donna Grote 314-434-7760

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP REMINDERS ARE E-MAILED OR MAILED EVERY TUESDAY. PLEASE TRADE WITH SOMEONE, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ASSIST. PLEASE INFORM THE OFFICE ASSISTANT OF CHANGES.							
DATE	NURSERY	ACOLYTE	WELCOMER	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGIST	COFFEE
Apr-7	JoAnn Moody, Alicia Carr	Calvin Heend	Kay Kreder	Carol Faust, Linda Ledbetter	Gary, Sue Lindhorst	Brenda Otterson	Lee Headrick, Evelyn Stecher
TEAM 3-Pew-Marsha Ramey-Cpt, Mike and Celeste Tichy, John Weiland, Pat Samel, Russ and Debbie Washburn, Kathryn Kuntzman							
Apr-14	Jan Wirtz	Skylar Droege	Debbie Washburn	Gavin Tichy, Kevin Wilking	Michael Winship, Ron Fix	Mike Tichy	Linda Ledbetter, Kathy Streiker
Apr-21	Sally Dodge, Krista Phillips	Brooke Hilton	Nancy Marston	Brenda Otterson, Annie Sampath	Bruce, Janet Wilking	Peter La Salle	De Fer Family
Apr-28	Erin Winship, Pat Winship	Nick Wintrode	Russ Washburn	Curt, Jennifer Wintrode	Brenda Otterson, Alicia Carr	Fred Olver	Glenn Family
May-5 Intinction Youth Sunday	JoAnn Moody, Alicia Carr	Emily Pfau, Ben Wehling	Jan Wirtz	YOUTH	YOUTH	YOUTH	Gerdes Family
May-12	Jan Wirtz	Emily and Michael Pfau	Marsha Ramey	Bob, Diane Droege	Jack, Ann Molyneaux	Alicia Carr	Washburn Family
May-19	Sally Dodge, Krista Phillips	Gloria Wintrode, Gloria Yowell	Earl Kreder	Kathy Streiker, Liz Schurwan	Jim, Diann Sheahan	Nancy Litzinger	Lindhorst Family
May-26	Erin Winship, Pat Winship	Michael Pfau	Judy Hertenstein	Lee Headrick, Cleo Steffens	Kathryn Kuntzman, Nancy Litzinger	Ronn Foster	Donna Grote, Gail Thoele

