



The Ivy Vine

May 2018



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivychapel.org

THE GREAT FIFTY DAYS

Our Savior spoke of himself in many ways, frequently employing what are described as Jesus' "I am" Sayings.

Only a short time ago, on the final Sunday in April, our Gospel for the day was a passage from John 10, where Jesus twice refers to himself, stating, "I am the good shepherd."

By his peers in the National Hockey League, former Edmonton Oiler and St. Louis Blue Wayne Gretzky was given the nickname "The Great One."

Many of today's older adults remember 20th century heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali espousing himself as "The Greatest." Mixed in with juicy, poetic taunts (i.e., "float like a butterfly; sting like a bee!") directed at his next boxing opponent, Ali punctuated pre-fight weigh-in's and press conferences with one classic pronouncement: "I am the greatest!"

By contrast, our Savior Jesus tends toward humility rather than arrogance. Jesus' words regarding "greatness" come across more as a cautionary teaching instead of a pep talk urging people to brag.

"A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was the greatest." (Luke 22:24)

So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know

that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:42-45)

The Church is now in smack dab in the middle of the peak season in our life of faith. The stretch of time between Resurrection Day and Pentecost Day is the Christian Church Season of Easter. This time is known as "The Great Fifty Days."

So here we are, my friends. In some sense, we are "milking" Christ's Resurrection for all it's worth. And why not?! Is there anything greater?

No one—inside of or outside of God's Church—can top the Day of days—Easter Sunday! From my seminary days, I recall Liturgy Class instilling within us that every worship service is "a little Easter." What an uplifting Christian vision: Every time of worship truly is intended to be a resurrection celebration! Think of it! Each time we go to church, you and I are letting loose with an Easter Alleluia!

(Fifty days...Continued on page 2)

(Fifty days...continued from page 1)

Marcus Halley, rector of St. Paul's Church on Lake of the Isles in Minneapolis, Minnesota, proclaims, "Human beings are endlessly complicated, frail and stubborn. Not only do we bear the image of God, we also bear the likeness of one another—the good, the bad, and the ugly. Proof of our frailty is found in our ability to rehearse and rehash our mistakes over and over again.... What is true—and more powerful than our never-ending opposition to the Holy Spirit—is God's grace toward us. We stand in need of redemption. Thank goodness God possesses an endless supply of mercy and grace, and is always ready to give us far more than we deserve, ask for, or could imagine."

"I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to do far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be the glory in the Church, and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:18-21)

Rector Halley muses, "I wonder if we make enough space in our lives to experience holiness. Our lives are much easier if we hold God and other things that require vulnerability at arm's length... But the work of God breaches our surest defenses with a relentless, take-no-prisoners love. In the very places we feel most secure, God will surprise us by walking through and extending an invitation to new life. Surprise is God's way of disarming us, helping us to be vulnerable enough to consider a different way forward."

Beloved, may you and I relish the remaining days of this sacred Easter Season. May each of us open ourselves to the marvelous surprises which God is offering everyone who is willing to become a vulnerable recipient of grace. My sisters and brothers in Christ, let us cap off this Easter Celebration seeking to live by the exhortation of the Desiderata:

"Go placidly amid the noise and haste,
and remember what peace
there may be in silence.

(Fifty days.....continued on page 7)

BLOOD DRIVE

Ivy Chapel

Tuesday, May 15 3:00 pm –7:00 pm

Fellowship Hall 620 N Woods Mill Rd

To schedule an appointment, call Sue Wilson at 314.434.4991
or online at www.bloodcenterimpact.org

Use Group Sponsor Code 10670 to schedule online

Please eat & hydrate well before donating and **MUST** bring photo ID to donate

If you have any questions or concerns, contact
Donor Support at 800-747-5401 or go
to www.bloodcenter.org.



**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER**

PREPARING FOR YOUR DONATION

Eat foods with high iron content:

- Berries: raspberries and strawberries
- Spinach and/or dark leafy greens
- Watermelon •Oatmeal •Beans •Peas
- Orange juice •Dark chocolate •Poultry
- Lean Pork/Beef •Dried fruits like raisins/apricots
- Whole grain, iron-fortified breads-cereals
- Seafood including: sardines, tuna, oysters, clams, shrimp, scallops
- Drink fluids including water and juice!

Check with your physician if an iron supplement
is right for you.

Get a good night's rest and eat a good meal before
donating!

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

SAVE THE DATE

The annual church picnic will be
on **JUNE 3rd**, this year. This is a
wonderful event for church
fellowship. Please join us for fun
time for all to gather and "share bread" together.
Watch for more information in future KYPs.



OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Frieda will be on vacation **June 5th-16th** (and Sep 4-14)
and will need volunteers to answer phones,
check mail, copy/collate the worship and KYP
with the Purple Pages. As usual, most of the
work will be preprinted. Please let Frieda
know if you would like to help, 314-434-4991.
Thursdays and Fridays are the most active days. You
may come in for instructions and they are printed.





May 2018

YOUTH SUNDAY – MAY 6



Linda Lowry
Youth Prog. Coordinator
linda@ivy chapel.org

A worship service written and led by the Youth of Ivy Chapel UCC

Including Children's Message, special music from youth of all ages,
and a skit written and presented by the older youth.

****Youth Sunday practice will be Saturday, May 5 at 4:00.****

GRADUATION SUNDAY:

If you know of any Ivy graduates, please let Linda Lowry know
so that we may celebrate their accomplishments.

ARK & ALPHA-OMEGA END OF YEAR LUNCH

DATE TBD – Watch for more information

8th – 12th grade youth will gather for our "End of the Year" lunch
Gather to eat with your friends and celebrate the past year of youth activities. Youth group
funds will pay for the lunch for the youth. Parents are welcome.



YOUTH SUMMER 2018 MISSION TRIP UPDATE

Where: Appalachia Service Project, Knott County Location, Hazard, Kentucky

When: June 24 – 30

Who: Nick Wintrobe, Stuart Kirk, Michael Pfau, Gloria Wintrobe, Calvin Heend and their adult sponsors
Amanda (Gerdes) Durham and Chris Moody. What a great group!

What will we be doing: ASP is a relational ministry that repairs homes for low income families throughout
Central Appalachia, with the goal to make homes warmer, safer and drier.

Why: To be God's hands and feet in the world. To share God's love with others. To share in fellowship with
our Ivy Chapel group and those we meet through our mission work in Kentucky. To have a fun and
meaningful mission experience and hopefully to grow in our faith as well.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018

Call for Volunteers!



The Christian Education Board is working on plans for Ivy Chapel's Summer 2018 Vacation Bible School and we need to know how many people are available to help. There are many opportunities for you to help: decorating, leading stations, leading groups of kids, teaching Bible stories, helping make and serve snacks or organizing the whole shebang. **Vacation Bible School will be the last full week of July 2018: 7/23-7/27.**

Some of you have helped in past years and you know that this is a meaningful and rewarding experience for our volunteers as well as the children who join us for this special week of sharing God's stories and spreading God's love. And if you haven't helped in the past rest assured that there is a spot for you!!

This year's theme: Rolling River Rampage: Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God. For a preview go to:

<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9781501840760/vacation-bible-school-vbs-2018-rolling-river-rampage-super-starter-kit/>

Being a VBS volunteer is a wonderful way to connect with the children of the community and share God's love. It is a meaningful and rewarding experience for all involved. We hope you will consider being a part of Vacation Bible School this year.

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex listing the volunteer positions needed. Please sign up today. For more information contact Linda Lowry linda@ivychapel.org or Sarah Heend skheend@gmail.com.



The Note

Hello all! We made it! It's Easter! Alleluia! What a wild ride Spring was this year! My goodness, I feel like spring just keeps getting busier and busier. Anyway, in my Lenten journey, I was really focusing in on how I could be a better version of my self. One of the ways that I have been trying to do some inner reflection is working of my empathy and trying to think from another's point of view. Maybe, I am noticing things more living in the city and sending my child to an inner city school; however, I am really working on cultural appropriation. I love other cultures. I love learning in general; however, it wasn't until this year that I realized the difference between cultural appropriation vs. cultural appreciation. I certainly have never meant to offend anyone, and I hope I have not. I guarantee that I will most definitely be more careful to make sure that my love shines through and that God's love shines through me. Lately, I've included songs in my note that come to mind that demonstrate the meaning of my short little introspection. This month, I am reminded of "I Then Shall Live" especially the following section:

*I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I'll dare to see another's point of view.*

Don't build walls, my friends. Learn compassion. Share love. See one another.

While we are still in the Easter season, it is time to start thinking about summer music. Are you interested in sharing your talents with Ivy Chapel this summer? We love all ages and abilities. If you feel led to share, please see me today. I have tons of dates to fill, and I am happy to work with your schedule. If you want to share but have no idea what to do, we can find it. If you do not want a solo performance, maybe we can get a group together. If that still doesn't seem like a good idea, we will have 1 or 2 times for the Friends and Family Choir to perform. What I am trying to say is there is room for everyone! Don't delay, see me today!

Anna DiVesta
314-609-0865

www.AnnaDiVesta.com



Christian Action

IT'S POOL TIME!

Our annual pool toy drive for Every Child's Hope (formerly Evangelical Children's Home) kicks off on Sunday, May 6.

We'll be gathering **BEACH TOWELS**, goggles, nose plugs, water toys, noodles, masks and (of course) sunscreen until May 27.

Drop off your donations on Sundays or during church hours in the Narthex.

Christian Education

Vacation Bible School

- CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

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Being a VBS volunteer is a wonderful way to connect with the children of the community and share God's love. It is a meaningful and rewarding experience for all involved. We hope you will consider being a part of Vacation Bible School this year.

Please contact Linda Lowry 314-703-2776 or Sarah Heend 314-283-5215, if you can help us in any way.

Scripture & Worship

May 6~6th Sunday of Easter: Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 198, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

May 13~7th Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19

May 20~Pentecost Sunday: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:24-35b, Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21

May 27~Trinity Sunday: Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17

Lectionary readings from: <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

HOW OLD ARE YOU REALLY?

We're updating information in our new software to have a complete record our Ivy Chapel family. Help us by providing your birth day, month and birth year. The birth year is *important to have* since the default is the current year. That means if your birth year is 1946 but we don't have that, the *default year is the current year which would show that you are only one year old*. 😲

For you and your children's privacy, the birth year is never printed in the membership directory. Just leave a sealed note on Frieda's desk, or the wall pocket outside the office door or send an e-message to her at ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org. Thank you for your help.

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP DATES

We will be picking up trash along Woods Mill Road after Coffee Hour weather permitting. Please bring a change of clothes and some walking shoes and join us. **FUTURE DATES TO HELP:**

JUNE 24 AUG 26 NOV 18



SAFE AND SECURE

The Trustees and Council continue to work on review and update of Ivy Chapel's safety and security procedures. On **Sunday July 1st**, a representative from the Chesterfield Police Department will make a presentation on "Intruder Response". The PowerPoint presentation will last approximately 30 minutes and be held in Fellowship Hall after coffee hour.

Mary & Martha Group

We met on May 17th with Irene Gulovsen speaking to us about Concepts and Meanings of Law in the Bible. She spoke of how the Judaic laws developed and that they are interpretations of relationship to God and to people. There are 613 laws in the Torah! Just as the laws of the land are continually interpreted as situations develop, so did these laws. She suggested a couple of good books like, *A Year of Living Biblically* by A. J. Jacobs (<http://ajjacobs.com/books/the-year-of-living-biblically/>), which describes the conditions of living under the Romans in Jesus' time. Thank you, Irene.

We solidified plans for the **May 6th Plant Sale**. We will set up for it from 2p.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday May 5th and any donations of plants should be brought that day. The money raised will be divided equally between the Ivy Chapel Trustees for upgrading security and **UP (Unleashing Potential)** www.upstl.org/ which was formerly Neighborhood Houses. The last time to Pre-order is Sunday, April 29th. Forms are in the Narthex. Payment is made for pre-orders when they are picked up. Give pre-order forms to **Kay Kreder** or any member of the M&M Group.

Jan Wirtz reported on the progress of custom T-Shirts which we are ordering from **Magnificent Creations**, a teen boys' business that is part of **UP**. These will be presented to Seven Pines Emmaus Home at our June 19th Women's Luncheon.

The collection for **Cleaning and Personal Care** items for **Lydia's House** will be delivered the last week of April.

Ladies, please mark June 19th for a Summer Luncheon at which **Darlene Sowell, Executive Director of UP** will speak. *More information will follow.* ☺

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IVY CHAPEL FACILITIES???

APRIL QUESTION OF THE MONTH WAS:

HOW MANY MECHANICAL ROOMS DO WE HAVE and what are in them.

THE ANSWER IS: Two Furnaces and two water heaters!!!



(Fifty days...continued from page 2)

As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons.

Speak your truth quietly and clearly;
and listen to others...

Beyond a wholesome discipline,
be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe,
no less than the trees and the stars;
you have a right to be here...

Therefore be at peace with God,...
and whatever your labors and aspirations,
in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.
With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams,
it is still a beautiful world..."

(excerpts from Desiderata by Max Ehrmann, 1927)

These days are great!

These days are great, not because of any human characteristic; not primarily because you and I are living in the good ol' US. Truthfully, you and I are blessed to be living in this great nation. However, this is not what makes this day or any day in history great.

These are "*The Great Fifty Days*," for they comprise the time period when God's Church is caught up in an ongoing celebration rejoicing over Christ's astonishing Resurrection!

Catch this wave; and be uplifted by the swell of God's ever-rising Eastertide! Be vulnerable enough to consider a different way forward. Then live it!

In honor of Christ, make each God-given day great,

Pastor Dan

Trustees

A **WORKDAY** at Ivy Chapel is scheduled for **Saturday May 5th 9am until...?** If you have some time in your schedule, we would love to have you join in to spruce up God's House and Holy Ground. Not to mention; this "fitness plan" will provide you exercise and fellowship, included free of charge, with your membership at Ivy Chapel. We always have your back (literally)!

Although the weather has been inconsistent, work is still being completed at Ivy Chapel. **Earl Kreder** has tuned-up and provided preventative maintenance on Ivy Chapel's tractor for another season of mowing. Thank-you Earl! The zoysia grass in the playground area has been power raked and thinned to promote a thicker healthier lawn. The gutters have been cleaned and the front flower beds, islands and parking lot cleaned from major winter debris.

On March 29th Chesterfield Police Department visited Ivy Chapel, walked the facility and grounds in order to perform a "Facility Security Assessment". It was determined that Ivy Chapel is a very solid facility, both structurally and procedurally! The assessment report provided one to three recommendations, under eight different categories inspected. These recommendations were taken to Council for discussion and possible action. Perhaps the most important note was to further develop an "All-Hazard Crisis Response Plan". This will provide us an opportunity to fine tune, existing; fire, severe weather, tornado and earthquake procedures, documents and maps. Vulnerabilities to be addressed may include responses for intruder(s) and active shooter(s). This is a work in progress. *More information to come.* ☞

Our Flower Chart is posted in Fellowship Hall.
Please consider having flowers on the altar
to beautify the Sanctuary.

RECYCLING REMINDER

Just a reminder that there is a container for aluminum recycling in the corner of Fellowship Hall near the kitchen. **Jack Molyneaux** has kindly taken on the task of recycling the cans collected. All proceeds from the aluminum go to help fund youth programs.

Thanks for taking care of the earth by recycling!





God's Blessings and... Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary to...

5/5/1967 Frank and Marg Ivey
5/26/1962 Rudolph and Heidi Lauer
5/26/2007 Shannon and Paul Farrell



1 Ann Molyneaux	14 Alex Kuntzman	25 Trish Baker
Bill Wirtz	Carl Ramey	Sarah Wilson
2 Rosalie Buente	18 Nancy Gerdes	27 Marsha Ramey
9 Pat Winship	Amanda Gerdes	
10 Jamie Del Carmen	21 Tom Glenn	
Bradley Kuntzman	24 William La Salle	
12 Rick Lindenberger		



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

Office open: Monday/Friday 8:30AM-3PM Tuesday/Thursday 8:30AM-2:30PM



➤ **NEED GIVING STATEMENT:** Peter LaSalle 636-519-0823.

➤ **BORROW** Chairs/Tables: Ralph Weiland 314-878-3230.

CHESTERFIELD COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL teaches children over three years, in the lower level of Ivy Chapel on weekdays. www.ccpstl.org/



LIONS CLUB recycles old eyeglasses: An orange collection basket in the office or in the wall pocket next to the office door.



SHOEMAN PROJECT: Place your unwanted footwear in the white box/bag in the coatroom. www.shoemanwater.org



INSTITUTO EL REY: Explore the website how YOU can help students in rural northern Honduras pursue their dreams. www.ierschool.org



Please place items on the designated shelves in the coatroom for these local charities.

CIRCLE OF CONCERN A Shopping and monthly needs List is on Fellowship Hall bulletin board. Call 636-861-2623 or visit www.circleofconcern.org



Isaiah 58 Ministries accepts donations of food, clothing, plastic bags/egg cartons—place in plastic grocery bags on marked shelves in the coatroom. Mark bags with "Isaiah 58." Meal a Month Chart sheet on Fellowship Hall bulletin board. www.i58ministries.org/



RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY Collects food and personal care items. www.ritenourcocare.org/


CARE CORPS

Care Corps May: Leader Pat Winship 636-394-5991

Co-Leader Nancy Marston 314-878-1317

ASSISTING IN LAY MINISTRY		Please find YOUR Name.		Reminders are sent each Tuesday.		
If you cannot help on your specific day, please switch with someone then inform the church office-314-434-4991.						
DATE	NURSERY	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGIST	COFFEE
MAY 6 YOUTH SUNDAY INTINCTION	Sally Dodge	Stuart Kirk Audrey Farrell	YOUTH	Bob, Diane Droege	YOUTH	Brenda Otterson, Nancy Marston
May 13 Mother's Day	Jo Ann Moody	Ben Wehling Rory Winship	Mark, Trish Baker	Liz Schurwan, Stuart Kirk	Cindy Kettler	Sheahan Family
MAY 20 PENTECOST/ CONFIRMATION	Sally Dodge	Nick Wintrode Miller DiVesta	Jack, Nancy Litzinger	Gary, Sue Lindhorst	Skylar Droege	Jo Ann Moody, Annie Sampath
May 27	Jo Ann Moody	Matthew Wehling Audrey Farrell	Jim, Diann Sheahan	Jack, Ann Molyneaux	Mike Tichy	Lauer Family
JUNE 3 ☩ CHURCH PICNIC	Sally Dodge	Stuart Kirk Rory Winship	Linda Ledbetter, Annie Sampath	HELP NEEDED Jan Wirtz	Michael Winship	-----
Communion Team 2-Pew: Judy Hertenstein (Cpt), Liz Schurwan, Celeste Tichy, Donna Grote						
June 10	Jo Ann Moody	Ben Wehling Miller DiVesta	Carl, Marsha Ramey	Carl, Pat Winship	??????	Carol Faust, HELP NEEDED
June 17 Father's Day	Sally Dodge	Nick Wintrode Audrey Farrell	Ralph, Myrna Weiland	Julie Mc Allister, Valerie Waterman	Carl Ramey	Foster Family

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 CC Rehearse 7pm	3	4	5 WORK DAY – Trustess-pg 7 Plant Sale set- up Youth Sunday Practice 4pm
6 6th S of Easter-Wht YOUTH/ HS GRADUATION SUNDAY 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship w/ LS, SS PLANT SALE Girl Scouts-S. Farrell 5:45 -7pm	7 Confirmation class 5-6	8 CE Mtg 7pm	9 CC Rehearse 7pm	10 ASCENSION DAY	11	12
13 7th S of Easter-Wht Mother's Day 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Mtgs Aft Worship: •Deacons •Christian Action •Trustee	14 Confirmation class 5-6	15 The Ivy Vine articles due M&M Wms Grp 1p BLOOD DRIVE 3-7PM SEE PG 7 	16 Men's Lunch 11:30am The Shack 14810 Clayton Road CC Rehearse 7pm-Last for season	17	18	19 Confirmation Bread Baking 12-2pm
20 Red PENTECOST AND CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship /SS Anna DiVesta Music Recital 2-5pm	21 Council Mtg 7pm 	22	23	24	25	26
27 Wht TRINITY SUNDAY NO Adult Bible Study 10am Worship/SS 	28 Memorial Day Office Closed	29	30	31	1 June	2 June

In June:  **3rd Church Picnic** → 5th-16th Frieda will be on vacation → 6th-10th Dan will be out of town
→ 15th-26th Linda will be on vacation 24th Highway Clean-Up see pg 6

AA=Alcoholics Anonymous CA=Christian Action CC=Chancel Choir		C.C.P.=Chesterfield Community Preschool EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion FH = Fellowship Hall		LL=LOWER LEVEL M&M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP PP=PURPLE PAGES		LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER SS=SUNDAY SCHOOL
Monday C.C.P. 9am-12pm AA 1pm	Tuesday C.C.P. 9am-12pm Anna DiVesta 4:30-8:30pm	Wednesday C.C.P. 9am-12pm Anna DiVesta 4:30-6:30pm	Thursday C.C.P. 9am-12pm AA 12:00pm Anna DiVesta 7-8:30	Friday C.C.P. 9am-12pm	Saturday AA 10:30am	