



ENCOURAGE



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivy-chapel.org

Neighbors of mine have a “rescue dog” who is an Australian Cattle Dog mix. This dog’s name is “Courage.” There are a variety of incidents depicted by the Gospels during which Jesus declares, “Take heart!” Each time Jesus says this, he is summoning people to display courage.

We recently heard one such incident during Sunday, May 16 worship. Jesus concludes his farewell speech to the disciples, declaring in John 16:33, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (Today’s New International Version, 2005) Following that service of worship, one in our congregation shared with me that as a girl she had memorized this Scripture in the words: “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” (King James Version, 1611)

The Common English Bible (2010) translates this passage: “I’ve said these things to you so that you will have peace in me. In the world, you have distress. But be **encouraged!** I have overcome the world.”

Every human being is a child of God, and every human being needs encouragement. In her book The Art of Encouragement (2002), Candy Paull cites an Irish proverb, “God likes help when helping people.” Paull also writes, “**Encouragement** is... inspiring each other to embrace life with enthusiasm, courage, and love.”

Yes, there definitely is a mutual quality to offering encouragement. In the greeting of his letter to the Church in Rome, the Apostle Paul writes, “To all God’s beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world... For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—or rather so that we may be mutually **encouraged** by each other’s faith, both yours and mine.” (Romans 1:7-8, 11-12)

Candy Paull closes her book The Art of Encouragement with the Benediction which is inscribed at the Gloucester Cathedral in England. The inscription is based on a lovely Benediction from the Book of Common Prayer (1892, 1928, modified):

“Go forth into the world in peace.
 Be of good courage.
 Hold fast that which is good.
 Render to no one evil for evil.
 Strengthen the fainthearted.
 Support the weak.
 Help the afflicted.
 Show love to everyone.
 Love and serve the Lord,
 rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
 and the blessing of almighty God,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be among you and remain with you always. Amen.”

(Continued on page 2.)

(Encourage continued)

At the time that the Early Christian Church was gaining a foothold, there was a new convert, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the disciples gave the baptismal name Barnabas, meaning “son of encouragement.” (Acts of the Apostles 4:36) Leaders of ‘The Way’ perceived the Spirit dynamically alive in him! Barnabas became an exceptional, vivacious believer who boldly witnessed to the eternal love of Christ!

Each time Jesus proclaims, “Take heart!” what Jesus is doing is offering encouragement to those he is addressing. The verb “to encourage” is defined by Merriam-Webster as “to give support, confidence, or hope to (someone).” Isn’t this what Jesus of Nazareth faithfully and consistently does? So, when our Savior exhorts his followers to “go and do likewise” (Luke 10:37); what is Jesus summoning us to do? Jesus is urging us as Jesus urges all people “to encourage” one another.



Every human being needs **encouragement**. In a fresh work entitled Virus as a Summons to Faith (Cascade Books, 2020), the Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann explores a vision of what he calls the coming of New Creation. This book, subtitled Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief and Anxiety, is an elaboration on an initial essay, “Reaping the Whirlwind” by Brueggemann, first published by the *Journal of Preachers* (March, 2020). This stirring book concludes with the author’s poignant words of prayer: “We prefer our worship of you should be upbeat... We take our glimpse of your promised kingdom as a venue, where never is heard a discouraging word! But then... reality!! like suffering and death, like pandemic and virus, like loss unimaginable! That reality breaks our happy illusion of a fairy-tale life in the first world, and we are left with stone-cold fear and bottomless need.

(Encourage continued on page 5)

Thank You...

...to all who have expressed concerns, love and prayers during my recent illness. I rejoice always in the love and support from the Ivy Chapel family. I praise God for my recent good news.

With deepest thanks, **Ann Molynueax**

IVY CHAPEL'S SUMMER PICNIC SATURDAY JUNE 12

Please join us for fun and fellowship at
Ivy Chapel's Summer Picnic on Saturday, June 12,
from 5 pm until dark weather permitting.

The picnic will be outdoors on the church grounds.



In an effort to continue to maintain safe practices, we are requesting that those attending bring their own lawn chairs, blankets, food, and/or beverages. Dessert provided.

We will also have games and chalk for those who would like to practice their parking lot artwork skills!

(Sunday June 13 following worship has been reserved as a backup date and time should inclement weather be forecast the evening of Saturday June 12.)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Emergency Pastoral Care

Pastor Dan will be on vacation June 21-27. During that time, Rev. Jeff Groene (Samuel UCC) has graciously offered to be available in the event that anyone from Ivy Chapel UCC is in need of pastoral care.

If you need **Emergency Pastoral Care June 21-27**, please contact Rev. Jeff Groene at **314-517-2468**.

Guest Worship Speaker Sunday, June 27

We are blessed that Rev. Brenda Booth (Executive Director, Isaiah 58 Ministries) will be our guest speaker at Ivy Chapel UCC Sunday, June 27 worship.

Pastor Dan will be on vacation.

Rev. Brenda has graciously offered to preach about God's ministries being offered through Isaiah 58 Ministries. Her message will be in the form of a Sermon/Mission Moment. We look forward to receiving Rev. Brenda's personal witness about ministries being offered through our Isaiah 58 partner in Christian Action.



Youth News

Do You Have Ideas?

With warm weather here we have the opportunity to gather safely outside.

Would you like to have a picnic in the pavilion?

Or maybe ride bikes on the church parking lot?

Or hold a sidewalk chalk drawing event at Ivy Chapel?

If you have an idea for a safe, socially distanced youth activity, please share your ideas with the Christian Education Board.

No idea is too crazy!

Contact Sarah Heend or Janet Wilking to share your thoughts.

To share your thoughts, contact

Sarah Heend, 314-283-5215, skheend@gmail.com

or Janet Wilking, 314-640-0643, wilkingj@umsl.edu



YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR SEARCH COMMITTEE



The search committee is continuing the process of finding a new youth program coordinator. The committee is meeting regularly to complete the steps to advertise for the open position.

Please support the committee with your prayers as they undertake this important work.

THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH THE CHILDREN OF IVY! HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO:

Share a Children's Message

During the pandemic the children of Ivy Chapel do not have the opportunity to do most of their "normal" church activities. One thing we have continued to do is have a children's message as part of our Sunday worship service. A small, but mighty, group has been offering children's messages since last fall. We are looking for a little more help. **Please prayerfully consider if you could share God's word with the children on one Sunday.** Contact Sarah Heend 314-283-5215, skheend@gmail.com to help, or if you have any questions.

Plan Sunday School Lessons

We are always looking for people to share their talents with Ivy Chapel's children.

Right now we need help assembling Sunday School lessons.

You can do online lessons or use some of our many lesson books to make copies and mail packets to the kids.

Please contact Sarah Heend 314-283-5215, skheend@gmail.com if you can help.

The Note

I'm coming! I'm coming! Sorry my life is a bit crazy right now. I know it's crazy all the time, but May is a special kind of crazy. It's like December crazy without the cookies and presents.



Anna DiVesta-Minister of Music
music@ivychapel.org

I seriously almost cried this week. Why, you ask? Well, the in-person congregants were able to sing with me for the first time in over a year. Additionally, my students were able to gather in an outdoor piano recital. Even though it rained (seriously came out of nowhere!), it was so nice to see everyone and to give my students a chance to perform in person. While I certainly hope that the hymns have spoken to you and that you have often sung along at home, I am so happy that we are *starting* to do things that have been so missed during this past year. Truthfully, it feels very lonely singing by myself. Even as a young child, I was never much of a solo artist. I've always wanted to make music with others. So, I cannot tell you how wonderful it was to have everyone singing along. I hope that we are able to make more music together. As more people become vaccinated, please consider joining me in the music ministry at Ivy Chapel whether it be instrumental, vocal or other ideas, I would love to make music with you.

Speaking of making music together, don't forget to send in your favorite hymns. I haven't received many. I would love to hear from you. Feel free to send me an email, music@ivychapel.org so we can get your favorite song plugged into a worship service sometime this summer. Hope to see you IN church sometime soon!

Until next time...Smiles,

Anna DiVesta
 314-609-0865

www.AnnaDiVesta.com



Worship
 with us at
Ivy Chapel

Reservations must
be made by
12 p.m. the
Saturday before.
Call
GAIL THOELE
at
314-591-0057.

Trustees

Have you ever wanted to mow the Ivy grounds using a vintage tractor?

Ivy Chapel is looking for few more drivers to add to the current rotation. What the tractor cannot safely reach (hillside and playground) is maintained by a regular push lawn mower. A *short* training session will be required.



The current drivers include **Earl Kreder, Gary Lindhorst, Tom Glenn, Mark Gerdes** and **Jack Molyneaux**.

Please contact Jack if you are interested (jamolyneaux@att.net). He maintains a mowing schedule which is posted in Fellowship Hall.

*N*ow that we are returning to church...**WE NEED HELP!**
 We need ushers, children's sermon teachers, and people willing to learn how to use the new AV (audio-visual) equipment.
 We surely would appreciate the help.
Board of Deacons

May Council Lifted Up:

- ♥ **Anna DiVesta** for all her efforts to enhance Ivy Chapel's worship services with the beautiful music she provides each week.

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Please consider helping picking up trash along a designated section of North Woods Mill Road. Tentative dates are set for 8/29, and 11/7. Contact **Bruce Wilking**, 314-640-4902, to let him know you want to help.



Scripture Worship

6 June~Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 8:4-11-20, (11:14-15), Psalm 138,
Genesis 3:8-15, Psalm 130, 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1,
Mark 3:20-35

13 June~Third Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13, Psalm 20, Ezekiel 17:22-24,
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10-17,
Mark 4:26-34



20 June~Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49; Psalm 9:9-20,
1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16, Psalm 133,
Job 38:1-11, Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32;
2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Mark 4:35-41

27 June~Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27, Psalm 130,
Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24, Lamentations 3:22-33,
Psalm 30, 2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 5:21-43

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

(Encourage continued from page 2)

*So we cry out with urgent imperative: **Hear, help, save!!...** We cry out, not in despair, but in confidence that you hear. You are the One, the only One, who can turn sorrow to joy, mourning to dancing, weeping to laughter. So now, God who hears, helps, and saves; hear, act, and make new! Give us courage and patience...let us be rich in soul and poor in things, ordered for neighborliness, generous with goods, free of fear,...*

We pray this in the name of Jesus who defeated the powers of death, overcame the forces of evil, ended the unbearable vexation of leprosy for some, and became the Lord of the Dance—the dance of wellbeing, gladness, and peace. So we pray, so we trust, so we hope... in you! Amen.

Encourage others.

Offer one another mutual encouragement.

Every child of God needs encouragement.

As the Gloucester Benediction summons, "Go into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Strengthen.

Support. Help. Show love to everyone."

Encourage,
Pastor Dan

Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on May 18th with a plan to do a Labyrinth Walk at Mercy Center. However, it was raining so **Pastor Dan** explained some of the history of Labyrinths and how they have come to be a tool for prayer and meditation. He showed us drawings of labyrinths and explained how they are used. We agreed that we may be able to visit a labyrinth later when the weather is better.

We will meet on the 4th Tues. in June (the 22nd) during which we hope to have a speaker from Evelyn House at Barnes Jewish West talk about Hospice Care.

Jo Ann Moody reported that Ivy received about \$560 from Plant Sale Proceeds and this will be divided among the three Lunch Pantries supported by Ivy Chapel. Thank you to Jo Ann Moody who kept the books, to **Pat Winship** who delivered plants and to all of you who participated. *Happy Growing.*

We plan to collect items for Lydia's House starting in the last week of May to June 13th. A list of items follows from their wish list and there will be a box in the Narthex to collect them.

They can only accept new items.

Lydia's House Wish List

Pot Holders	Kitchen Towels	Paper Towels
Dishcloths	Toilet paper	13 gal. trash cans
Liquid Laundry Detergent	Rag Mops and/or buckets	
Twin Sheet sets	Bath Towel Sets	



Fund the Facility

Fund the Facility—just a reminder that this is year three of IVY CHAPEL's Fund the Facility campaign. Fund the Facility monies are used to cover significant building and grounds and related costs, such as the roof repair, parking lot water pipe repair and audio/visual improvements in the Sanctuary, accomplished the past two years.

If you are able, please consider using some of your stimulus money to help us meet our goal.



With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary to... 

6/1970 Rod and Judy Hertenstein
9/1978 Mark and Jo Ann Moody
15/1974 Peter LaSalle and Sally Dodge
18/1994 Rich and Sarah Heend
19/2010 Erin and Michael Winship
20/1959 Jim and Diann Sheahan
20/1987 Bruce and Janet Wilking
22/1991 Dan and Sue Wilson
24/1967 Bill and Norma Pasia

25/1966 Jack and Ann Molyneaux
28/1969 Ralph and Myrna Weiland

Happy Birthday to... 

1 Cindy Kettler
3 John Weiland
8 Curt Wintroe
10 Marsha Fix
14 Krissy Lowry
15 Carl Winship
16 Jason Lowry
21 Sarah Scott
22 Heide Lauer
24 Nelie Mc Neal
Amy Kavalauskas
24 Rory Winship
30 Nancy Litzinger

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

Anna DiVesta: music@ivychapel.org

Frieda Clark: ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org

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

➤ **GIVING STATEMENTS:** Peter LaSalle 636-519-0823

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

JUN Care Corps LDR-Pat Winship 636-394-5991
JUL Care Corps LDR-Diane Droege 314-369-6349

CO-LDR-Nancy Marston 314-878-1317
CO-LDR-Nancy Marston 314-878-1317

ASSISTING IN LAY MINISTRY		Please find YOUR Name.		Reminders are sent each Tuesday.		
DATE	NURSERY	ACOLYTE/	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGIST	COFFEE
<p>This is just a reminder that reservations must be made through Gail Thoele at 314-591-0057.</p> <p>They must be made by NOON the Saturday before.</p> <p>For daily spiritual nourishment; we invite you to subscribe free of charge to our United Church of Christ StillSpeaking Daily Devotional at www.ucc.org/daily_devotional</p>						
					DAILY DEVOTIONAL <small>Created by the StillSpeaking Writers' Group</small>	

Charities we serve:

LIONS CLUB recycles old eyeglasses: Place frames and lenses (no case) in the orange collection basket in the office or in the wall pocket next to the office door.



SHOECREW PROJECT: Place your unwanted (no holes or loose soles please) footwear in the white box/bag in the cloak room.
www.shoecrewwater.org

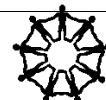


INSTITUTO EL REY: Explore the website how YOU can help students in rural northern Honduras pursue their dreams. www.ierschool.org



Please place items on the designated shelves in the cloak room 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 donations of food, clothing, plastic bags/egg cartons—place in plastic grocery bags on marked shelves in the coatroom. Mark bags with "Isaiah 58." Bag of Blessings sheet on Fellowship Hall bulletin board. www.i58ministries.org



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	2 Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	3 AA 12pm Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm Christian Ed. Mtg 7pm	4	5 AA 10:30am Anna DiVesta-Music class 1-3pm
6 2d S aft Pentecost-grn 10am Worship Anna DiVesta-Music class 11:30am-1pm	7 AA 1pm	8 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	9 Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	10 AA 12pm Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	11	12 AA 10:30am Anna DiVesta-Music class 1-3pm SUMMER PICNIC 5pm until dark see page 2
13 3d S aft Pentecost-grn 10am Worship Anna DiVesta-Music class 11:30am-1pm	14 AA 1pm COUNCIL MTG 7PM	15 The Ivy Vine articles due AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	16 Men's Lunch 11:30am Hunan Empress 162 Four Seasons Shpg Cntr Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	17 AA 12pm Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	18	19 AA 10:30am Anna DiVesta-Music class 1-3pm
20 4th S aft Pentecost-grn 10am Worship Anna DiVesta-Music class 11:30am-1pm	21 AA 1pm	22 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm see page 5	23 Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	24 AA 12pm Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	25	26 AA 10:30am Anna DiVesta-Music class 1-3pm
<div> <div>←</div> <div>—Pastor Dan on vacation June 21-27—</div> <div>—Pastor Dan on vacation June 21-27—</div> <div>→</div> </div>						
27 5th S aft Pentecost-grn 10am Worship Guest Speaker: Rev. Brenda Booth see page 2  Anna DiVesta-Music class 11:30am-1pm	28 AA 1pm	29 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	30 Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm	1 July AA 12pm Anna DiVesta-Music class 6:30-9pm Christian Ed. Mtg 7pm	2 July	3 July AA 10:30am Anna DiVesta-Music class 1-3pm

 **Our Office Manager, Frieda Clark, will be on vacation July 5 to the 16th** 

 **MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF INITIATIVE** Your donations help the non-profit RIP Medical Debt Relief org. and the UCC to buy the a person's medical debt. They'll receive a letter that their debt is gone—No taxes or penalties. Just like that, they're free of medical debt. No later than August 1, 2021; please send your donations to the Missouri Mid-South conference office (483 E. Lockwood Ave. Suite 15, St. Louis, MO 63119) and write in check memo "MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF" or donate through the [Missouri Mid-South website](#), at the bottom of the donation list find "MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF".

For more information, please contact Rev. Rob Van Ess at revrobvaness@gmail.com

AA=Alcoholics Anonymous	CA=Christian Action	FH = Fellowship Hall	KYP=KEEPING YOU POSTED	JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL
CC=Chancel Choir	CE=Christian Education	LL=LOWER LEVEL	LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER	NURSERY=NY
EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion		M&M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP	SY=SANCTUARY	PP=PURPLE PAGES
				SS=SUNDAY SCHOOL
	Monday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Tuesday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Wednesday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Thursday JRWP 8:30-3:30
				Friday JRWP 8:30-3:30