

# The Ivy Vine

## May 2021



Dan Wilson, Pastor  
[pastordan@ivychapel.org](mailto:pastordan@ivychapel.org)

### Creativity and Joy!

Five and a half years ago, our Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ attempted to get a new program off the ground which was designed to stir creative juices in local churches. It was named “New Beginnings.” There was an initial ‘Come and See’ New Beginnings Event at another UCC in our area. One of our Ivy Chapel UCC members participated. Following the ‘Come and See’ Event, it was our decision, primarily based on collective wisdom of our Council leadership at that time, not to pursue involvement in it. 20/20 hindsight, that program actually may have been something quite groundbreaking and healthy for Ivy Chapel UCC to become involved in at the time. The reality is that we did not.

I believe it is fair to say that, then and now, our congregation’s leaders are receptive to an approach of seeking “New Beginnings.” If ever there were a moment ripe for a fresh start on our part, it is now. Together, may we be prayerful and open to what God is seeking to create anew through Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ now.

There is a portion of a traditional liturgy of confession which includes an “Assurance of Pardon” in these words: “The past is dead and gone. The future is open. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.”

What is on the horizon? This is a question that may be posed today at all levels of life. Uncertainty often

troubles us. However, if past months have revealed anything at all, this time of relative isolation during the COVID Pandemic has revealed that very little is certain. This extended period of time is continuing to reveal that human life is characterized by much uncertainty. It is my belief that this reality is not bad. We do not need to fear uncertainty. It is my belief that our faith teaches people to acknowledge and to embrace the impermanence of earthly life. Connected with this truth is a future with God—a future of unlimited potential! What is on the horizon? We do not fully know. We cannot. Yet, precisely in our not knowing, we realize that God’s future is ripe with possibility and that God’s future is wide open.

What is on the horizon for Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ? None of us fully knows. As *Ever-Alive, Ever-Creative God* leads, may you and I *joyfully* embrace the newness and the openness of whatever future God is envisioning for this faith community which is our dearly loved church home. This requires immense trust on our part. When we place our faith fully in Christ, God enables us to live with trust. I submit to you, my beloved companions, that one thing is sure: God’s future will offer abundant opportunities for “*Creativity and Joy!*” These wholesome traits are characteristics of God. We are well acquainted with

(Continued on page 2.)

(*Creativity and Joy!* continued.)

divine "*Creativity and Joy!*" through the testimony of the Holy Scriptures and through our lived experiences. A remarkable truth is that divine "*Creativity and Joy!*" may be displayed by human beings. Everyday life is now a "**new** normal." We are not going back; not "getting back to normal." Life will be different. We are going forward, and I sense that our God is thrilled by this! You and I can be, too. We're off on a journey into the unknown. Be open, have faith, and follow God's lead. This isn't easy. I am aware. We continue endeavoring to be God's faithful Church on a shifting playing field. I look forward to sharing with you in this ongoing re-birth of God's Church during coming weeks and months. The sky's the limit, Ivy Chapel UCC! "Give yourself fully to God. God will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in God's love than in your weakness...I want you to have that complete confidence that God won't let us down."

(In the Silence of the Heart, Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

Journeying forward into God's future; living with  
"*Creativity and Joy!*"  
**Pastor Dan**

**"Nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but it is Christ who  
lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I  
live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and  
gave himself for me."**

Galatians 2:20 (quoted by Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

**Take, Oh Lord, and receive  
All my liberty, my memory,  
my understanding and my will,  
all that I have and possess  
You have given them to me**

**To You, Oh Lord, I restore them.  
All things are yours  
Dispose of them according to you will.  
Give me your love and your grace  
For this is enough for me.**

~ Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)



## BLOOD DRIVE

**THURSDAY, MAY 13**



Ivy Chapel UCC is hosting a blood drive  
**2:30-6:30pm Thursday, May 13** in cooperation with  
Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center.

The Blood Center strongly encourages blood donors to make an appointment in advance, as they are still practicing social distancing and safe COVID protocol.

You may go to [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org) or contact  
**Sue Wilson** 314-324-3765 to schedule  
your appointment time.



Come join us for  
**VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR**  
every  
Sunday at 11:30 AM.

It's nice to get together  
in cyberspace even if some  
of us are not comfortable or  
unable to meet in person.  
If you have a problem with  
the link, please text or call

Sue Wilson at  
(314) 324-3765.  
See you Sunday!

## Apr. Council Lifted Up:

- ♥ **Gail Thoele** and **Sue Wilson** for managing the in-person worship services and following Ivy Chapel, County and CDC guidelines for safe gatherings.
- ♥ **Frank Purviance** for his two-year commitment working with the roofing contractor and insurance company to complete Ivy Chapel's roof repair.
- ♥ **Frank Purviance** and **Don Wolff** for rewiring the booster in the sanctuary to providing stronger wi-fi signal to improve the live-stream worship services.
- ♥ **Rich Heend** and **Aaron DiVesta** for their continued volunteer services as the "Tech Team", week in and week out, carrying out the audio /visual tasks, during and after worship. They are an invaluable gift to our congregation!
- ♥ **Miller** and **Charlie DiVesta** for acolyting at the Easter morning worship service.
- ♥ **Jack Molyneaux** and **Gary Lindhorst** for their work on Ivy Chapel's Memorial Garden makeover.



# The Note

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter! Personally, I am still processing the fact that we have been in this pandemic an entire year. Before the one year anniversary, I was mourning all my memories as they popped up in my phone. It was so sad for me to think of the "before time." We were all living our lives having no idea what was to come. As the one year anniversary comes around, I find myself returning to the anxiety and fear I felt at this time last year. Aaron had just been furloughed. We had just moved into a new house. My sons' lives were uprooted in an uncertain time. I was lonely. I was sad. I was scared. I worked harder than I ever had before, because I was frightened that we would lose it all. So many people reached out to us. I feel so blessed to have so many great people in our lives. Many of these awesome people come from Ivy Chapel. I know I say it a lot, but I just want to say thank you to all of those who have reached out to us during the pandemic. Being a musician when you can't gather is hard, and I am just so thankful. Many happy tears were shed just because it touched my heart so much that so many people cared about us which got me thinking. I will never forget all the kindness that was shown to us. I wonder if I've ever been so kind to someone that they will never forget me. I want to be that good of a person. A couple years ago, I wrote in my note about doing good recklessly. Maybe you remember. I want to do good no matter the consequences. I hope you all will join me. In a world where it feels like we are being torn apart, stand strong together.

It has been our tradition the past couple years to do a congregation choice hymn in the summer. I love this tradition. It helps me get to know you, and honestly, I like playing what you like. It warms my heart. I hope that you will consider your hymn choices this year. Please send me your hymn requests straight to my email, [music@ivychapel.org](mailto:music@ivychapel.org). Pastor Dan and I will happily slot those hymn choices in June, July and August.

Speaking of hymns, some hymns are difficult for me to sing and play (especially on the organ.) I have a hard time playing and reading the words in the 2nd and 3rd verses. When you throw in the feet on the organ, it can



Anna DiVesta-Minister of Music

[music@ivychapel.org](mailto:music@ivychapel.org)

# Trustees

Thanks to **Gary Lindhorst**, Memorial Garden has received a makeover and looks great. The bench and fountain have been reconstructed and painted with 2 coats of "Dry Lock" waterproof paint and 2 coats Ace's Best grade latex paint compatible with Dry Lock.



The Trustees and friends have been busy with spring cleaning. The flower beds have been cleaned out and mulched. Bushes have been trimmed and weeds sprayed around the buildings and along Woods Mill Road. Mowing will begin in mid-April.

The *next* Woods Mill Highway clean-up is scheduled for *May 23*, but the date may be adjusted given that week's weather forecast.

Please contact **Bruce Wilking** (314-640-4902) if you are interested in helping.

## HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Please consider helping picking up trash along a designated section of North Woods Mill Road. Tentative dates are set for the **5/23**, 8/29, and 11/7. Contact **Bruce Wilking**, 314-640-4902, to let him know you want to help.



get particularly tricky. I would love to have a vocalist join me on occasional hymns to help support myself. This could be a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the music ministry without having to sing solo.

Which brings me to my next thought. As much as I love singing and playing for worship, I would *love* to have some *additional* musicians join me this summer. As more and more of us are getting vaccinated, perhaps, you would consider joining me for a special music offering. I would love to have more participants in our music ministry at Ivy Chapel. Please contact me, and I'll happily place you on the calendar. It is pretty much wide open at this point. Thanks so much for all who have given a musical offering and thanks so much for all those who are currently considering.

Until next time...Smiles,

**Anna DiVesta**

314-609-0865

[www.AnnaDiVesta.com](http://www.AnnaDiVesta.com)

# Scripture & Worship

## 2 May, Fifth Sunday of EASTER

Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8



## 9 May, Sixth Sunday of EASTER

Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-1

## 16 May, Seventh Sunday of EASTER

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19

## 23 May, Day of PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, Romans 8:22-27, Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15



## 30 May, TRINITY SUNDAY

Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17

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



# Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on a snowy Apr. 20<sup>th</sup> and made tentative plans for the remainder of 2021. On **May 18<sup>th</sup>** we hope to go to the **Labyrinth at Mercy Center** and experience that form of meditation.

The following months are:

**June 22**—Talk on **MO Botanical Garden** by **Docent Janet W.** (daughter of Mary Mitchell). This meeting will be on the **fourth Tues., June 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

**August**—Hopefully, **Dessert for A Dollar** and **Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>** and either attend a **Band Concert** in St. Charles or have a talk by someone from **Evelyn's House Hospice**.

**Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>**—Talk and Field Trip to **Fantastic Finds** which is an upscale resale shop that supports the **Assistance League of St. Louis**.

**Oct 19.**—**Ladies Luncheon**.

**We welcome anyone who would like to join in on these activities.**

## Fund the Facility

Fund the Facility—just a reminder that this is year 3 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.

## KEEPING YOU POSTED

You're invited to send Frieda Clark messages—by end of *any* Wednesday—news about you or the family, pets, garden...anything that you want to *share* with the rest of the congregation and she will put it in a *weekly e-Keeping You Posted* to email to all of you every Friday.

**This is just a REMINDER that reservations for worship must be made through**

**GAIL THOELE at 314-591-0057.**

**Reservations must be made by 12 p.m. the Saturday before.**





# With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary to... 

Happy Birthday to... 

5/5/1967 Frank and Marg Ivey  
5/26/1962 Rudolph and Heidi Lauer  
5/26/2007 Shannon and Paul Farrell  
5/26/2018 Katie and Matt Amsler  
5/28/1988 Mike and Celeste Tichy

1 Ann Molyneaux  
Bill Wirtz  
9 Pat Winship  
10 Jamie Del Carmen  
Bradley Kuntzman  
12 Rick Lindenberger  
14 Alex Kuntzman  
18 Nancy Gerdes  
Amanda Dunham  
21 Tom Glenn  
24 William LaSalle  
25 Trish Baker  
Sarah Wilson

## 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](mailto:pastordan@ivychapel.org) 314-580-4564

Anna DiVesta: [music@ivychapel.org](mailto:music@ivychapel.org)

Frieda Clark: [ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org](mailto: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

**MAY Care Corps LDR-Valerie Waterman 636-391-9886**  
**JUN Care Corps LDR-Pat Winship 636-394-5991**

**CO-LDR-Pat Winship 636-394-5991**  
**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><b>This is just a reminder that reservations must be made through Gail Thoele at 314-591-0057.</b></p> <p><b>They must be made by 3 p.m. the Saturday before.</b></p> <p>For daily spiritual nourishment; we invite you to subscribe free of charge to our United Church of Christ StillSpeaking Daily Devotional at <a href="http://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional">www.ucc.org/daily_devotional</a></p>						
					<b>DAILY DEVOTIONAL</b>	<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](http://www.shoecrewwater.org)



**INSTITUTO EL REY:** Explore the website how YOU can help students in rural northern Honduras pursue their dreams. [www.ierschool.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.i58ministries.org)



**RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY** Collects food and personal care items. [www.ritenourcocare.org](http://www.ritenourcocare.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> AA 10:30am
<b>2</b> 5th S of Easter-wht <b>10am Worship</b>	<b>3</b> AA 1pm	<b>4</b> AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AA 12pm <b>Christian Ed. Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> AA 10:30am
<b>9</b> 6th S of Easter-wht <b>10am Worship</b>	<b>10</b> AA 1pm <b>COUNCIL MTG 7PM</b>	<b>11</b> AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> AA 12pm <b>Blood Drive 2:30-6:30pm</b> with Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center <b>See pg 2</b> 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>The Ivy Vine articles due</b> AA 10:30am
<b>16</b> 7th S of Easter-wht <b>10am Worship</b>  Anna DiVesta-Recitals- <b>EMMP</b> 12:30-5:30pm Shannon Farrell-Girl Scouts 6pm	<b>17</b> AA 1pm	<b>18</b> AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm  <b>Mary &amp; Martha Wms Grp 1pm</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Men's Lunch 11:30am Yellowstone Café</b> 165 Lamp & Lantern Village, Town & Country, 636-207-0501	<b>20</b> AA 12pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> AA 10:30am
<b>23 PENTECOST*</b> -red Acts 2:1-21  <b>10am Worship</b> Anna DiVesta-Recitals- <b>EMMP</b> 12:30-5:30pm (Back-up) Shannon Farrell-Girl Scouts 6pmish	<b>24</b> AA 1pm	<b>25</b> AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> AA 12pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> AA 10:30am
<b>30 HOLY TRINITY</b> wht <b>10am Worship</b>	<b>31</b> AA 1pm	<p><i>*In Greek <b>pentecostē</b> means "50th day". The Jewish feast of Pentecost (Shavuot), was thanksgiving of the first wheat harvest...later, a remembrance of the Law given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. For Christians, it is the day the gift of the Holy Spirit was given to them.</i></p> <p><i>Acts 2:2-4 "...suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability."</i></p> 				



**Spend time in the fresh air at Chesterfield Community Concerts**  
Click [here](#) to find out more about **Summer Concerts at FAUST Park**

AA=Alcoholics Anonymous CC=Chancel Choir EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion	CA=Christian Action CE=Christian Education	FH = Fellowship Hall LL=LOWER LEVEL M&M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP	KYP=KEEPING YOU POSTED LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER SY=SANCTUARY	JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL NURSERY=NY 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

Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ  
620 North Woods Mill Road  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
314-434-4991  
[www.ivychapel.org](http://www.ivychapel.org)  
[www.facebook.com/IvyChapel](https://www.facebook.com/IvyChapel)  
[twitter@ivychapel](https://twitter.com/ivychapel)



Dan Wilson, Pastor