

The Ivy Vine

2021 November



Giving Thanks to God



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivy-chapel.org

The month of November is synonymous with “thanksgiving.” Many, many Scriptures speak of ‘Thanks’ Giving (biblically, in the sense of people giving thanks to God). One wonders, with this theme so prevalent in Holy Scripture, why do people so frequently neglect to express thanks to God? Is there a reason? Is this a conscious decision, an intentional action? Or is it purely an oversight, an act of neglect? Perhaps coming up with an explanation is not important. The reality is that human beings often do fail to give thanks to God. Even on those occasions when we do express gratitude, it is not unusual for us to overlook God.

Today, we are enjoying yet another month of November. How beautiful autumn is! True, trees are losing their leaves and the moments of daylight available each 24 hours are shrinking. Nevertheless, how magnificent autumn is! Surely, this scenic season is the handiwork of God!

This month, God will provide God’s world with a blessed array of gifts. As the faith community of Ivy Chapel UCC, you and I will be the recipients of multiple blessings in coming days. These already are on the horizon. November 2021 will



offer us ample opportunities to give, including packets of turkey gravy, “Buy-a-Bird” holiday meals through Isaiah 58 Ministries, additional food and personal hygiene items for Ritenour Co-Care and Circle of Concern, units of blood through Ivy’s Nov. 16 *Impact Life* Blood Drive, prayer, care, worship, children’s messages, music, Totenfest, decorating God’s Church for Advent, and more! Oh, how I pray that you will avail yourself of chances to express your personal gratitude to God through sacred giving opportunities. Do something magnificent for others!

Giving thanks is the way of life to which Christian faith aspires. May we seek to lead lives which celebrate, not only one national holiday, but each and every day as an occasion for ‘Thanks’ Giving to God.

Treasure these words of one precious Psalm of Thanksgiving:

The vault of heaven sings with the glory of God! One day chatters the age-old news to the next, and tonight passes the word on to tomorrow. No noise, mind you; no word you or I could hear, deafened as we are to the sounds of silence. And yet their message echoes in the depths of the sea, rolls through the valleys and

(Continued on page 2)

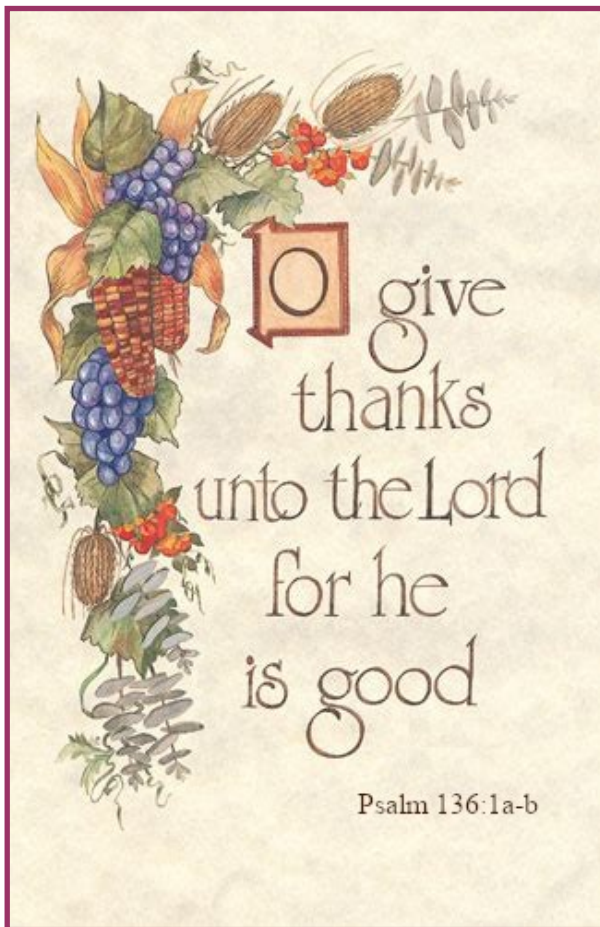
up the mountainsides: 'God in heaven has pitched a tent to for the sun, and strides from the pavilion like a bridegroom seeking his love; like a sprinter, shivering in readiness to begin her race. God is a healer! Let all the earth sing praise!' (More Daily Prayers for Busy People, William O'Malley)

Let all that is within us bless God's holy name and **give thanks to God**. "... you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil. My cup overflows!" (Psalm 23:4-5)



Impact life! Share the fullness of joy which Christ our Savior provides!

May you live as a soul overflowing with 'Thanks' Giving,
Pastor Dan



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SAVE THE DATE-SUNDAY, DEC. 5

Please save the date of Sunday Dec. 5 following worship services for our Annual Congregational Meeting, at which our congregation will vote to approve the 2022 Budget and Slate of Officers*.

The meeting will be held in person in the sanctuary and virtually, with remote participation via Zoom provided as an available option.

Formal notice of this meeting with additional details will be mailed to church membership in the next few weeks.

*See Nominations for 2022...article on page 4



Instead of having in-person Thanksgiving worship, we will have a pre-recorded service to watch.

This year our message will be brought to us from Rev. Mary Nelson, Transitional Conference Minister.
Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Thank You...

...all for the prayers, cards and well-wishes during my parents' recent health crises. They are doing better, though their health issues will continue to be ongoing for the foreseeable future. My parents have found comfort in knowing they are in our prayers here at Ivy. And Rich and I very much appreciate the support we have received during these last months from everyone at Ivy.

Sarah Heend

Oct. Council Lifted Up:

- ♥ Deacons and Pastor Dan for helping find temporary musicians to play during Sunday morning worship services.
- ♥ Linda Lowry for putting together the Rally Day activities. Also, for taking the minutes for tonight's meeting in Jo Ann Moody's absence.

Youth News



Advent is Coming!

Advent starts on November 28th this year.

We will have packets of Advent activities for each Sunday School family available as we get closer to the end of the month.

ADVENT STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES

We will have in-person Advent Storytelling on December 12th at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Join us for this special fellowship activity.

We will read a few stories, talk about Advent traditions and maybe even sing a few Christmas songs.

Help Us Find a new Youth Ministry Coordinator

We need help getting the word out about our open position at Ivy Chapel. The job posting is on ivychapel.org and on Ivy Chapel's Facebook page. Word-of-mouth is always a great way to help us advertise – tell your friends, family and neighbors about our Youth Ministry Coordinator job opening.



Share the Children's Message



A small, but mighty, group has been offering children's messages since last fall. We are looking for a little more help. The children love to hear a message just for them. You can share a book, a favorite Bible story or explain a Bible verse to our young ones. Please contact Sarah Heend if you can help.

☞ Please contact Sarah Heend at 314-283-5215 or by email: skheend@gmail.com if you can help.

Thank you for
wearing your
masks! 🙌👤

Children under 12 are not able to receive vaccines against Covid-19 at this time.

We hope that will change in the future. Until that happens, we can all help protect the young ones of our congregation by continuing to wear face masks when in the church building. Thank you for keeping our church safe for all ages!

NOMINATIONS FOR 2022 SLATE OF OFFICERS

2022 is fast approaching and we are looking for volunteers to fill open positions with our Council, Boards, and Committees. Please consider joining our Moderator **John Weiland** in formation of a nomination committee to help fill these open positions. Please contact John at 636-399-2588 or

jlweiland2003@yahoo.com if you are interested in serving on the nomination committee, or if you are interested in serving on an open position.

Positions that are either currently vacant or are currently uncommitted for 2022 as of Oct. 16 include:

Vice Moderator,
Recording Secretary,
Treasurer,
Financial Secretary,
Christian Education (Council Rep and Board Members),
Church and Ministry (Board Member),
Deacons (Board Member),
Fellowship (Council Rep),
Trustees (Board Member),
Investment (Committee Member), and
St. Louis Association (Representative).

See Congregational Meeting...page 2.

Mary and Martha Wms Group

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on Tues. Oct. 19th for about 30 minutes, and then proceeded to the Fantastic Finds Resale Shop in Bellerive Plaza at Olive and Mason Rd. which is 100 % run by volunteers. It supports the Assistance League of St. Louis which provides clothes and shoes to school children, needed items to women and children in shelters, soft toys in traumatic situations, scholarships to women in transition and routes items they cannot use to other organizations. They also provide books to children. They are closed on Sundays and Mondays. This shop is a major Fundraiser for them. The Assistance League is a national organization and is in other cities. After a tour we did a little shopping in this boutique-like store.

☞ We will meet again on Tue., Nov. 16th at 1 p.m. in the Multipurpose room when we will bring a cherished item to 'show and tell' to the group and describe the story of its meaning to us.

We plan a trip in December to the historic Tappmeyer House in Millenium Park on Mason Rd. which will be decorated for Christmas. Watch the KYP for details.

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 repairs to a broken sewer pipe this summer, parking lot water pipe repair last winter; the roof repair and audio/visual improvements in the Sanctuary that were accomplished the past two years.

If you are able, please consider helping us meet our goal through contributions.



OH! SUBMISSIONS FOR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

are due **early** in November! Please try to submit your newsletter article by November 10th so we can get the December newsletter to members before Thanksgiving.

because

Sun., Nov. 21st Frieda Clark will be going to North Carolina for a family Thanksgiving visit.



HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Please consider helping picking up trash along the designated section of North Woods Mill Road on **November 7th after worship** (last one for 2021).

Contact **Bruce Wilking**,
314-640-4902, to

let him know you want to help.



Scripture Worship

7 NOV 2021, 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/TOTENFEST

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Psalm 127, 1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44



14 NOV 2021, 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Samuel 1:4-20, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Daniel 12:1-3, Psalm 16, Hebrews 10:11-14-25, Mark 13:1-8



21 NOVEMBER 2021, REIGN OF CHRIST

2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-18), Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, Psalm 93, Revelation 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37



28 NOVEMBER 2021, First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

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

MEANING AND HISTORY OF ADVENT

“For many Christians unfamiliar with the liturgical year, there may be some confusion surrounding the meaning of the Advent season. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think that it serves as an anticipation of Christ’s birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there’s more to Advent.

The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming,” which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God’s incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1), His baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (John 1:29), and his first miracle at Cana (John 2:1). During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas.

By the 6th century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ. But the “coming” they had in mind was not Christ’s first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but His second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ’s first coming at Christmas.”

Copied from <https://www.christianity.com/christian-life/christmas/what-is-advent.html>

Christmas is Coming!

The first Sunday in Advent is November 28. While we are not having our usual “Hanging of the Greens,” we are planning on putting up decorations in the Sanctuary during the week of November 21.st They will include:

- 1) A small tree decorated with Crismons.
- 2) The wreaths on the windows.
- 3) Garlands on the pulpit and lecturn.
- 4) The Nativity set on the altar.
- 5) The Advent wreath.
- 6) Poinsettias.

The large Nativity set will again be displayed in the Narthex.

If you would like to help with any of this, please call **Dottie Foster** at 314-878-4286, with the task you wish to do and your available time.



SAVE THE DATE - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2:30-6:30pm

Impact Life (formerly Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center) will be joining us for our biannual blood drive in Fellowship Hall.

Roll up your sleeves and join us for Ivy Chapel UCC’s **blood drive.**

Visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org or contact **Sue Wilson** at (314) 324-3765 for an appointment time.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. Luke 2:15



Advent 2021

Week One ~ Sunday, November 28 THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer

Gracious God, as we begin our Advent journey, we thank you for the gift of your Son, and for sending hope into a world filled with dread. Help us remember that we are your people, and because of your promises we have every reason to be hopeful. Take away our doubt and fear, and remind us that Christ is our Light, and the true source of hope. Amen.



Week Two ~ Sunday, December 5 THE CANDLE OF PEACE

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer

Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we thank you for sending the Prince of Peace into a world filled with unrest and strife. We ask that you quiet our restless hearts and instill in each of us the calm assurance that tells us you are in control so we need not worry. Give us the tools we need to serve as you would have us serve, and make us willing instruments of your peace. Amen.



Week Three ~ Sunday, December 12 THE CANDLE OF JOY

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer

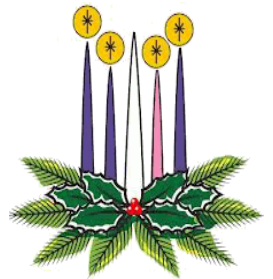
Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we ask that you open our eyes to the beauty and goodness around us, and fill our hearts with grateful joy. Remind us that Christ is our light and the source of all joy, and that we are here to serve you and to spread this joy to others. Amen.



Week Four ~ Sunday, December 19 THE CANDLE OF LOVE

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer

Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we are reminded that "Love came down at Christmas - love amazing, love divine." You loved the world enough to send your Son, and now it's up to us to love others as you love us. Remind us that Christ is our Light, and the true source of infinite, everlasting, pure love. Amen.



Christmas Eve ~ Friday, December 24 THE CHRIST CANDLE

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Prayer

Gracious God, tonight as we gather together to conclude this Advent journey, we celebrate that a new light has dawned! A Child is born, and this Child is our light and the source of our joy. The child brings hope into the world, and the promise of peace on earth. The child is love incarnate, love divine; and we thank you, O God, for this—the most perfect gift imaginable. Joy to the world! Christ is born! Amen.



Poinsettia Order

If you would like to order a poinsettia(s) for the Sanctuary for Christmas, please send a check for the amount of \$10 with your name and your Christmas message for church or put it in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Deadline for orders is November 28.



Name _____

Number of Poinsettias _____ Total Cost _____

Christmas Message _____

You may take your plant(s) home after Christmas Eve Worship or the following Sunday.

Advent Word Search



THANK YOU for Taking ACTION, Ivy Chapel!



We collected **645 diapers** and helped

FILL THE WAREHOUSE

at the **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank!**



P	B	B	E	C	A	E	P	F	S	N	A	B	S	P
Y	E	M	M	A	N	U	E	L	K	U	D	N	P	G
N	U	N	S	M	G	N	L	P	V	Y	S	M	Q	G
R	O	T	O	E	E	I	R	Y	O	J	O	E	Q	U
F	O	I	I	I	L	R	D	S	F	H	V	M	J	K
J	D	T	T	G	T	D	U	N	Z	W	O	A	O	E
P	B	T	H	A	H	A	N	O	O	O	A	R	Z	W
L	U	R	H	G	R	P	P	A	F	H	G	Y	N	R
T	F	R	O	O	I	A	E	I	C	X	C	A	E	E
Q	I	D	P	I	Y	L	P	S	C	J	X	G	O	A
Q	K	M	M	L	V	Q	P	E	O	I	S	J	T	T
W	O	M	N	T	E	A	X	N	R	J	T	H	O	H
I	U	H	X	S	X	S	S	H	R	P	I	N	K	O
F	S	F	V	J	V	Y	E	G	N	I	T	I	A	W
L	O	V	E	C	I	O	J	E	R	O	M	O	N	S

ANGEL
ANTICIPATION
CANDLES
EMMANUEL
FOUR
HOPE
JESUS

JOSEPH
JOY
LIGHT
LOVE
MARY
PEACE
PINK

PREPARATION
PURPLE
REJOICE
SAVIOR
WAITING
WREATH



SEE THE E-KYP (Keeping You Posted) and find out about other Ivy Chapel events on Ivy Chapel's Facebook "Community" page. At the Home" menu bar you see the word "Community."



Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ

@IvyChapel · Religious Organization

Home About **Community** Jobs More ▾



Advent 2021

See page 5 to learn more about **MEANING AND HISTORY OF ADVENT**.
See page 6 about the significance of each Advent Sunday





With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary to... 

Happy Birthday to... 

11/12/1983 Bill and Jan Wirtz

11/21/1964 Jack and Nancy Litzinger

11/24/1979 Stephen and Linda Lowry

11/26/2005 Valerie Waterman and John Parsons

5 Alicia Carr

6 Erin Moody

10 Matthew Amsler

11 Brenda Otterson

Kay Kreder

12 Shannon Farrell

Ralph Weiland

14 Norma Pasia

19 Julie Mc Allister

20 Jennifer Wintrose
Tom Kuntzman

22 Jackson Mc Neal

30 Robert Droege

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@ivy chapel.org 314-580-4564

Office Manager—Frieda Clark: ivy chapelucc@ivy chapel.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

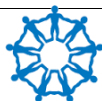
NOV Care Corps LDR-Sue Wilson 314-324-3465
DEC Care Corps LDR-Debbie Glenn 314-576-3991

CO-LDR-Ashton Wilson 314-956-6919
CO-LDR-Evelyn Stecher 636-536-6542

ASSISTING IN LAY MINISTRY		Please find YOUR Name.		Reminders are sent each Tuesday.		
DATE	NURSERY	ACOLYTE/	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGIST	COFFEE
		<p>All are welcome to join us. Masks and social distancing still required to protect our young and unvaccinated members. Or worship on Facebook or YouTube Sunday at 10 a.m. Visit our YouTube channel</p> <p>For daily spiritual nourishment; we invite you to subscribe free of charge to our United Church of Christ Still Speaking Daily Devotional at www.ucc.org/daily_devotional</p>				
						
		<p>Created by the StillSpeaking Writers' Group</p>				

Charities we serve: Please place items on the designated shelves in the cloak room or otherwise designated.

CIRCLE OF CONCERN—Shopping and monthly needs List is on FH bulletin board. Place on **TOP SHELF**.
636-861-2623 <https://www.circleofconcern.org/>



RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY: Place food and personal care items on **2nd SHELF**. <https://www.rccfoodpantry.org/>

Isaiah 58 Ministries Bag of Blessings list on FH bulletin board. Place on **3rd-4th SHELVES:** food, egg cartons, clothing, plastic bags, glass cases.
<https://i58ministries.org/>



Every Child's Hope <https://everychildshope.org>
Lydia's House <https://www.lydiashouse.org>
UP—Unleashing Potential <https://upstl.org>

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



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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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NOVEMBER 2021

	1 AA 1pm	2 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	3	4 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am Christian Ed. Mtg 7pm	5	6 AA 10:30am
7 TOTENFEST SUNDAY 10am Worship w/LS HWY CLEAN-UP pg 4 Shannon Farrell Girl Scouts 6-7:30pm -no other groups	8 AA 1pm COUNCIL MTG 7PM	9 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	10 The Ivy Vine articles due pg 4	11 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	12 Square Dancing-FH 3:30-5:30, 7-9pm	13 AA 10:30am
14 25th S aft Pentecost-grn 10am Worship	15 AA 1pm	16 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm pg 4 Blood Drive 2:30-6:30pm pg 5	17 Men's Lunch 11:30am at Chimi's 60 Four Seasons Shopping Center	18 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	19	20 AA 10:30am
21 26th S aft Pentecost-grn 10am Worship Shannon Farrell Girl Scouts 6-7:30pm -no other groups	22 AA 1pm	23 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	24	25 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am THANKSGIVING DAY video worship see pg 2	26	27 AA 10:30am
Frieda on vacation 21 November–5 December see pg 4			Frieda on vacation			
28 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10am Worship Poinsettia orders due pg 7	29 AA 1pm	30 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	December 1	December 2 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am Christian Ed. Mtg 7pm	December 3	December 4 AA 10:30am
Frieda on vacation 21 November–5 December see pg 4						



In December: Frieda on vacation 21 November–5 December see pg 4

Sun., 5th **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** see pg 2

Sun. Dec. 12th Advent Storytelling at 6:30pm see pg 3

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	JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND SCHOOL NURSERY=NY SY=SANCTUARY	PP=PURPLE PAGES SS=SUNDAY SCHOOL
Monday JRWS 8:30-3:30	Tuesday JRWS 8:30-3:30	Wednesday JRWS 8:30-3:30	Thursday JRWS 8:30-3:30	Friday JRWS 8:30-3:30	