

The Ivy Vine February 2022



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivy-chapel.org

Reflecting Beauty

The full beauty of Jesus belongs to the Son of God alone. This is true. Yet, by the grace of God, you and I are blessed to reflect Jesus' beauty. Those astonishing occasions when this actually occurs are sacred moments. In her 1983 book **And It Was Good: Reflections on Beginnings**, Madeleine L'Engle shares: "God's image! How much of God may be seen in me, may I see in others?... I believe that the Kingdom is built on the little things that all of us do. I remember my grandmother was fond of reciting:

Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand
Make the mighty ocean
And the pleasant land.

A single drop can't make even a puddle, but together, all our little drops and God's planning can make not only a mighty ocean but a mighty difference. And there's not much we can do, but when Peter healed a cripple, it was made very clear that it was not by his own power, but by the power of Christ, the creating Word, that the healing was accomplished. This power is available to all of us... Creation continues lavishly, and we are part of it. Not only are stars and people and fireflies born, not only do they die, but what we as creatures do during our lifespan makes a difference... When I look at the galaxies on a clear

night—when I look at the incredible brilliance of creation, and think that this is what God is like, then, instead of feeling intimidated and diminished by it, I am enlarged—I rejoice that I am part of it, I, you, all of us—part of this glory... And our total inter-dependence is an astounding glory!"

The grandiose glory of God can seem 'beyond' us. However, Madeleine L'Engle importantly helps us to realize that you and I are part of God's glory. This is so vital for all people to be aware of. We are part of divine glory larger than ourselves. Each one of us is a valuable part of God's glorious creation; and creation "in toto" is grander, bigger than all of us put together! Far too frequently, we fail to absorb that God is the Creator of the whole universe! Thankfully, we are brought back to our senses and we are assisted in recognizing God as the One True Creator through the living witness of Holy Scripture. Simply read Isaiah 45 and Isaiah 46.

Carlo Carretto (1910-1988) was an Italian teacher and a member of the religious order the Little Brothers of Jesus. Carretto divided his personal time between the order's house in Oran (located in the Sahara Desert in northwestern Algeria) and the order's house in Spello (located in the Umbrian Hills in central Italy). Carretto was an author of numerous books. One of Brother Carretto's repeated,

(Continued on page 2)

literary themes was his description of God as “the God of the Impossible.” (Summoned By Love, Orbis Books, Maryknoll, NY, 1978, pp. 127-130; and Journey Without End, Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, IN, 1989, pp. 87-93). “God is the God of the Impossible: this is the foundation-stone of faith, the grounds for our courage, our hope against hope... The God of the Impossible is a God who knows, a God who can, a God who provides. God is the living One... Faith in the God of the Impossible has transformed my life and driven out fear, even fear of sinning. God is the living One. God overcomes... God raised Jesus from the dead. God builds God’s Church out of weak stones such as we are. God gives food to the hungry. God fills the heart with joy regardless of worldly ordeals... God can forgive us. God loves us in spite of our sins. God sees all. God can do all. God is the God of the Impossible,” marvels Brother Carretto.

The COVID-19 Pandemic lingers. Uh-huh, the world has gone ‘viral.’ Clearly, we are fatigued by it and fed up with it. Yet this prolonged experience is revealing that there are many things which we cannot control. For now, we continue coping with life in this *liminal season*. Could it be that one virtue derivative of the pandemic is that it is causing us to deepen our relationship with God?

Carlo Carretto was blessed with total faith and confidence in the Living One. Pray that we all may be led to embrace such a belief, such an absolute trust in the power and capability of God to do and to build and to give and to transform!

There’s a lovely song that I recall singing after dark at church camp. While gathered close together in a campfire circle, everyone sang:

“Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me,
All his wonderful passion and purity;
O Thou Spirit divine, All my nature refine,
Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.”

This is every disciple’s ultimate pursuit—reflecting the beauty of Jesus. Each new day, may we continue “learning more of Christ” (Matthew 11:29) and so deepen our commitment to serving God.

Within this fragmented, uncomfortable 2022 context where we find ourselves living, are there wholesome, adventurous ways in which you and I can be growing as followers of Christ? What new aspects or actions might we begin incorporating into our daily faith walk?

God is the God of the Impossible.
Reflect the beauty of Jesus,
Pastor Dan

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please join us on Sunday February 27th immediately following worship at 11 AM for a special congregational meeting to vote on proposed revisions to the Ivy Chapel UCC By-Laws. The meeting will be conducted in-person in the sanctuary, and remotely via ZOOM. Formal notice of this meeting and the proposed revisions were provided separately, including a link to the ZOOM meeting. We look forward to your participation in this meeting.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM THE DEACONS

It is our calling as a Christian community to care for and protect each other.

Masks worn correctly, completely covering the mouth and nose at all times, is the best way to mitigate the spread of aerosols that may spread the COVID19 virus.

Thank you for wearing your mask correctly so that we can continue to safely worship God together.

Jan. Council Lifted Up:

- ♥ **Dottie Foster** for coordinating the Hanging of the Greens this Advent season.
- ♥ **Don Wolff** for his continued technical support and troubleshooting of Ivy’s A/V system.
- ♥ **Tara Lowry and Linda Lowry** for creating, leading, and coordinating Ivy Chapel’s wonderful in-person Christmas Pageant this year.
- ♥ By-law Committee members (**Gail Thoele, Peter LaSalle and Jo Ann Moody**) for reviewing current Ivy Chapel By-laws throughout 2021 and offering recommended changes.



Mary and Martha Wms Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group is planning to meet on **Tuesday, Feb. 15th at 1:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at Ivy Chapel** assuming the Omicron Covid Virus numbers have gone down. We will plan for the remainder of the year.

FEBRUARY...

The Roman month *Februarius* was named after the Latin term *februum*, which means "purification", via the purification ritual *Februa* held on February 15 (full moon) in the old lunar Roman calendar.

Historical names for **FEBRUARY** include the Old English terms Solmonath (mud month) and Kale-monath (named for cabbage) as well as Charlemagne's designation Hornung.

In FINNISH, the month is called *helmikuu*, meaning "month of the pearl"; when snow melts on tree branches, it forms droplets, and as these freeze again, they are like pearls of ice.

In POLISH and UKRAINIAN, respectively, the month is called *luty* or *лютий* (*lyutiy*), meaning the month of ice or hard frost.

In MACEDONIAN the month is *sechko* (сечко), meaning month of cutting (wood).

In CZECH, it is called *únor*, meaning month of submerging (of river ice).

Having only 28 days in common years, February is the only month of the year that can pass without a single full moon.

Excerpted from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/February>



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.

Trustees

The Trustees kept busy in 2021 with the completion of several major projects:

- The third roofing attempt over Fellowship Hall was completed and successful.
- A major sewer leak in the playground was repaired.
- An inspection by the Chesterfield Fire Marshal resulted in a Safety Report with a list of 12 items that were successfully addressed.
- A new telephone system branded by AT&T was installed in the Church. The new system connects wirelessly with four other extensions and has answering and call transferring functions.
- Memorial Garden has received a makeover. The bench and fountain were reconstructed and painted with two coats of waterproof paint.

As always, regular mowing, trimming, raking, and general maintenance of the grounds continued throughout the pandemic. New trees are being planted that will mitigate erosion as well as beautify the area.

We worked with Juniper Root Woodland Microschool to remove old playground equipment, repair the playground fence, and cut back brush, including honeysuckle, weeds, and invasive vines, along the lower lot and pathway to the pavilion.

Thanks to all who helped the Trustees: **Don Wolff, Gary Lindhorst, Steve Lowry, Mark Gerdes, Julie Mc Allister,** and Dave Mentzel to name just a few.

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Please consider helping picking up trash along a designated section of North Woods Mill Road for 2022. After worship for the following dates(subject to change) :

Mar 13, May 22, Aug 28, Nov 6

Contact Bruce Wilking, 314-640-4902 about helping.



Scripture & Worship

WED, FEB. 2, PRESENTATION OF THE LORD: Malachi 3:1-4, Psalm 84, Psalm 24:7-10, Heb. 2:14-18, **Luke 2:22-40**

6 FEB., 5TH SUN AFTER THE EPIPHANY: Isaiah 6:1-13, Psalm 138, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11



13 FEB., 6TH SUN AFTER THE EPIPHANY: Jeremiah 17:5-10, Psalm 1, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26

20 FEB., 7TH SUN AFTER EPIPHANY: Genesis 45:3-11, 15, Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40, 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

27 FEB., TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY: Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-43a

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

DID YOU KNOW...

IT DOES SNOW IN ISRAEL.

SNOW IS MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE 23 TIMES (AS AN EXAMPLE AND AS A DESCRIPTION).

"Like the cold of **snow** in the time of harvest are faithful messengers to those who send them; they refresh the spirit of their masters." ~Proverbs 25:13

"His (angel of the Lord) appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as **snow**." ~Matthew 28:3

"...and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as **snow**; his eyes were like a flame of fire,..." ~Revelation 1:13-14

WINTER IS MENTIONED 18 TIMES IN THE BIBLE

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and **winter**, day and night, shall not cease." ~Genesis 8:22

"At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was **winter**, and JESUS was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon." ~John 10:22-23



Jewish men pray at the Western Wall as **snow** falls in the old city of Jerusalem.

From: MENAHEM KAHANA/AFP/Getty Images

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.



~Luke 2:22-38

GREETER/USHER SCHEDULE

DATE

JAN–APR 2022

2 January 2022	Don Wolff and John Weiland— communion
9 January 2022	Kay and Earl Kreder
16 January 2022	Myrna and Ralph Weiland
23 January 2022	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
30 January 2022	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
6 February 2022	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele— communion
13 February 2022	Pat and Carl Winship
20 February 2022	Don Wolff and John Weiland
27 February 2022	Kay and Earl Kreder
6 March 2022	Myrna and Ralph Weiland— communion
13 March 2022	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz— Daylight Saving Time Begins
20 March 2022	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
27 March 2022	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele
3 April 2022	Pat and Carl Winship— communion
10 April 2022	Don Wolff and John Weiland— Palm Sunday
17 April 2022	Kay and Earl Kreder— Easter
24 April 2022	Myrna and Ralph Weiland

DUTIES

(All this is subject to change)

1. Please arrive at 9:30.
2. Fold bulletins and place any inserts inside.
3. Greet people at the sanctuary door.
4. Be certain masks are being worn.
5. Get names and phone numbers of guests.
6. Distribute bulletins.
7. Mark attendance on check list.
8. Close sanctuary doors at 10:00am
9. Open doors for dismissal after postlude.
10. Collect bulletins in basket.
11. Give attendance list to Gail or Dottie
12. Take offering to the office and place in Don Wolff's mailbox.
13. Give out communion cups on the first Sunday of the month.

If you are unable to attend on your scheduled Sunday, please switch with others serving on another date and let Gail Thoele know.

314-576-0091 or 314 591 0057

Available to substitute: Liz Schurwan 314-432-3362

CARE CORPS VOLUNTEERS 2022

JAN	Dottie Foster 314-878-4286	Gail Thoele 314-576-0091
FEB	Sue Wilson 314-324-3465	Pat Winship 636-394-5991
MAR	Sarah Heend 314-283-5215	Kay Kreder 314-878-5296
APR	Julie McAlister 314-576-4946	Gail Thoele 314-576-0091
MAY	Valerie Waterman 636-391-9886	Kathryn Kuntzman 636-391-8468
JUNE	Diane Droege 314-369-6349	Sally Dodge 314-579-0972
JULY	Diann Sheahan 314-275-2913	Ann Molyneaux 314-878-0966
AUG	Kathryn Kuntzman 636-391-8468	Valerie Waterman 636-391-9886
SEPT	Pat Winship 636-394-5991	Jan Wirtz 314-740-7385
OCT	Gail Thoele 314-576-0091	Dottie Foster 314-878-4286
NOV	Dottie Foster 314-878-4286	Sue Wilson 314-324-3465
DEC	Debbie Glenn 314-576-3991	Evelyn Stecher 636-536-6542



Winter



Word Search

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

SNOWFLAKES

COAT

SLEDDING

FREEZING

WINTER

ICE SKATING

BLIZZARD

FIREPLACE

GLOVES

COLD

FROST

SKIING

HOT CHOCOLATE

SCARF

BOOTS

JACKET

HAT

MITTENS

SWEATER

WINDY



With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary to... 

No Anniversaries in February

Happy Birthday to... 

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Isabella Del Carmen | 17 Dan Wilson, Pastor |
| 3 Carol Faust | 20 Joe Del Carmen |
| Gregory Scott | Marg Ivey |
| 14 Diann Sheahan | Rich Marston |
| 15 Nancy Marston | 23 Kate Mc Neal |
| 16 Paul Farrell | 27 Taylor Cox |

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

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

FEB CARE CORPS LDR-Sue Wilson 314-324-3465
MAR CARE CORPS LDR-Sarah Heend 314-283-5215

CO-LDR-Pat Winship 636-394-5991
CO-LDR-Kay Kreder 314-878-5296

ASSISTING IN LAY MINISTRY		Please find YOUR Name.		Reminders are sent each Tuesday.		
DATE	NURSERY	ACOLYTE/	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGIST	COFFEE



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](#)

For daily spiritual nourishment; we invite you to subscribe free of charge to our United Church of Christ
Still Speaking Daily Devotional at
<https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>



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
2022  FEBRUARY		1 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	2	3 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am CE Mtg 7pm	4	5 AA 10:30am
6 5th S aft Epiphany grn 10am Worship w/ LS/SS	7	8 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	9	10 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	11 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	12 AA 10:30am
13 6th S aft Epiphany grn 10am Worship, SS	14 Council Mtg 7pm	15 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm The Ivy Vine Articles DUE Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	16 Men's Luncheon 11:30am- The Country Club 288 Lamp & Lantern, Town & Cntry, 636-256-7201	17 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	18	19 AA 10:30am
20 7th S aft Epiphany grn 10am Worship, SS	21	22 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	23	24 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	25	26 AA 10:30am
27 Transfiguration wht 10am Worship, SS	28	March 1 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	March 2 ASH WEDNESDAY Worship 7:30pm	March 3 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am CE Mtg 7pm	March 4	March 5 AA 10:30am

IN March: 2ND ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 7:30PM 3RD CE Mtg 7pm 13TH HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP-see page 3
14TH COUNCIL MEETING 7PM 15TH MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP, 1PM; NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE
16TH MEN'S LUNCHEON AT STACKHOUSE

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 WOMEN'S GROUP	JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL NURSERY=NY SY=SANCTUARY	PP=PURPLE PAGES SS=SUNDAY SCHOOL
Tuesday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Wednesday JRWP 8:30-3:30	Thursday JRWP 8:30-3:30			