

The Ivy Vine

May 2022



Dan Wilson, Pastor
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Rise and Surprise!

God's Church is now smack dab in the middle of a peak season in our faith. The stretch of time between Resurrection Day and Pentecost Day is the Christian Church's **Season of Easter**. This time is known as "*The Great Fifty Days*." So here we are, dear friends. We are "milking" Christ's Resurrection for all it's worth. Why not? Is there anything greater?!

No one—inside of or outside of God's Church—can top Resurrection Day—the Day of days—Easter Sunday! Faithful Christian theology recognizes that every worship service is "a little Easter." Truly, every service of worship is an occasion for a resurrection celebration! What a vision! Each and every time that anyone worships God, we are expressing an Easter Alleluia!

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 that 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."

(Continued on page 2.)

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"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)

Friends in Christ, 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 offers to everyone who is willing to become a vulnerable recipient of grace.

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! If any event is surprising, it surely is **the Resurrection** of Jesus Christ. As Rev. Rachel Hackenberg ecstatically proclaims, "Easter's life is greater than Good Friday's death." Surprise is God's way!

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

The Resurrection is Christ Jesus rising from death to life. This is high tide—Eastertide! Rise and surprise! Christ is alive! Now is eternally a moment for all God's people to arise!

Rise and love with abandon!

Surprise is God's way,
Pastor Dan

whoever
refreshes others
will be
refreshed.

~Proverbs 11:25b



ImpactLife BLOOD DRIVE

HAPPY SPRING EVERYONE, I wanted to let you know Ivy Chapel UCC is hosting ImpactLife for a blood drive on Thursday, May 12 from 2:30-6:30.

We have appointments available for both whole blood and double red cell donations.

Please go to bloodcenterimpact.org or contact me at swilsons9@gmail.com or (314)324-3765 for an appointment time.

Donations have been slim and there is always a need. Please give the gift of life and schedule a donation appointment.

Thanks for rolling up your sleeves, **Sue Wilson**

Spring is bringing fresh challenges to the Trustees.

Frieda Clark has announced her retirement.

She will finish her sixteenth year at Ivy Chapel on Sunday, **July thirty-first, 2022.**

We are asking you to keep your eyes and ears open for anyone that would like to join us as the Church Office Administrator. Anyone that is interested in this part-time position is asked to contact Frank Purviance at purviancefsp@gmail.com



Apr. Council Lifted Up:

- ♥ Valerie Waterman for providing special worship music for the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services.
- ♥ Frank Purviance for coordinating the furnace purchase and installation.

WE REALLY NEED TO HAVE YOUR BIRTH YEAR.

Without the exact birth *year* the software that Ivy Chapel uses calculates the age of each individual. Even if you have been a member since 1964 we *still may not* have your correct/actual birth year. You may actually be 78 but the database software we use tells us you are four (4) years old. That is because Ivy Chapel uses database software to help keep vital information for each individual. This information includes special dates such as birth, confirmation, marriage, et cetera.

➤ Note: this information is never disclosed to public. It is for member record keeping only. Even if you *think* we have your birth year, please contact Ivy Chapel (ivychapellucc@ivy-chapel.org or 314-434-4991) to provide your BIRTH YEAR with month and day.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on Tuesday, April 19th. We decided to go to the Butterfly House in Faust Park at our next meeting on May 17th.



We will have a Mini Plant Sale on May 1st in Fellowship Hall with the proceeds going to Ivy Chapel's Fund the Facility. 🌱

We contacted Lydia's House for their most pressing needs and they suggested the following for a collection: Rag mops, kitchen towels and pot holders. We will begin the collection on Sunday, May 8th (Mothers' Day) and stop on Sunday, May 29th. If you are unable to shop, a donation will be appreciated and we will shop.



After our meeting on the 19th we went to the Labyrinth at Mercy Center. With the guidance of Linda Lowry we pondered peacefully and quietly as we walked the Labyrinth with the sun shining and birds chirping. Prayers were said as we enjoyed God's creation.

SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: Are you interested in going to church camp this summer? Ivy Chapel Youth may fill out the application form on Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ Facebook page to request a camp scholarship for summer 2022. Please contact **Sarah Wilson** (sarahwilson797@gmail.com) with any questions.

BLOOD DRIVE

BLOODCENTER.ORG

Ivy Chapel

Masks and appointments required!

Thursday, May 12 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall 620 N Woods Mill Rd

To schedule an appointment,
call Sue Wilson at 314.324.3765, ImpactLife at 800.747.5401
or go to www.bloodcenter.org/group
Use group code 10670 to schedule online

ImpactLife

GIVING AT IVY CHAPEL

If you cannot attend the Sunday Worship service, you can send your offering gift to the church:

IVY Chapel UCC
620 North Woods Mill Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017



Scripture Worship



1 May, Third Sunday of Easter: Acts 9:1-20, Psalm 30, Revelation 5:11-14, John 21:1-19

8 May, Fourth Sunday of Easter: Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

15 May, Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148, Revelation 21:1-6, John 13:31-35

22 May, Sixth Sunday of Easter: Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67, Revelation 21:10, 22:22-5, John 5:1-9, 14:23-29

Ascension of the Lord, Thursday, May 26: Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47, 93, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 24:44-53

29 May, Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 16:16-34, Psalm 97, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/index.php>

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

~Luke 24:45-51



The Ascension by John Singleton Copley

Did you know?

“Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called **EMMAUS**, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.” ~Luke 24:13-14

There are several towns that are thought to be—the New Testament town of Emmaus apparently no longer exists.

Quintilius Varus, was sent to Jerusalem to assist in subduing an insurrection that arose due to oppression over the Jews by Sabnus (who just happened to arrive shortly before Pentecost—Jewish festival of Shavuot). As a result, Sepphoris, the ancient capital of Galilee, was burned, and all its inhabitants were sold as slaves, after which Varus marched on **EMMAUS** in the west, and burned it likewise, the inhabitants saving themselves by flight.

www.biblestudytools.com/classics/andrews-the-life-of-our-lord-upon-the-earth/part-vii/two-disciples-at-emmaus.html



The Way to
Emmaus
By
Robert Zund

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

~Acts 1:6-11

LOVE IN BLOOM

Thanks to Julie Mc Allister and Dave Mentzel, their hard work and love for Ivy Chapel is blooming. Of the three, the image below is from the tallest tree.



KEEPING YOU POSTED

By end of *any* Wednesday—Send your news to (Frieda Clark) ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org for the weekly e-KYP (e-Keeping You Posted)—emailed every Friday.



Trustees

The Trustees were busy with climate control of Ivy Chapel which is provided by eight furnaces and air conditioners in two mechanical rooms. Unfortunately, one of the furnaces was rusted out and the furnace and a 10-ton AC unit had to be replaced. Academy Air had the winning bid.

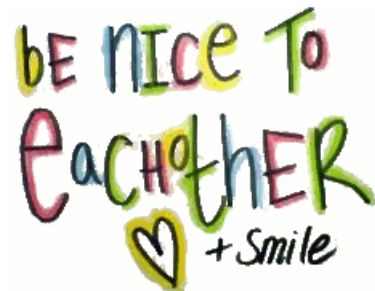
Mowing season is upon us and in preparation, Earl has tractor ready to go. Thus far, there are five people - Gary, Earl, Tom, Mark, and Jack - in the mowing rotation. More are welcome to join after a brief training session.

The next highway clean-up is scheduled for May 22, weather permitting. See below.

Work day is scheduled for Saturday, May 7

TRUSTEE PROJECTS

- Replace sprinkler pipe-steps to sign
- Repair Playground gate
- Seal foundation at Memorial Garden
- Fix class room 5 water leak shelf
- Cement cove base to wall in Fellowship Hall
- Remove two trees in front yard under power lines
- Remove dead pine tree at driveway entrance
- Prune bushes in front of building, at sign, and flag pole
- Replace East post on "Preschool" sign



HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Thank you to Jack Molyneaux, Earl Kreder, Janet and Bruce Wilking for helping with Ivy Chapel's Highway Clean-up Day, March 13th.



Please consider helping picking up trash along a designated section of North Woods Mill Road. After worship for the following Sundays of this year (subject to change): **May 22, Aug 28, Nov 6**
Contact Bruce Wilking, 314-640-4902 about helping.



With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary to... 

For May

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

Happy Birthday to... 

For May

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

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 the church office 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

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

MAY CARE CORPS LDR-Valerie Waterman 636-391-9886

JUN CARE CORPS LDR-Diane Droege 314-369-6349

CO-LDR-Kathryn Kuntzman 636-391-8468

CO-LDR-Sally Dodge 314-579-0972

ASSISTING IN LAY MINISTRY: Please find YOUR Name. If you're unable to attend please switch with others serving on another date (available to sub: Liz Schurwan 314-432-3362) and let Gail Thoele know 314-576-0091/314-591-0057

DATE	GREETERS/USHERS
1 May	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz— communion
8 May	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
15 May	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele
22 May	Diann and Jim Sheahan
29 May	Don Wolff and John Weiland
5 June	Kay and Earl Kreder— communion
12 June	Myrna and Ralph Weiland
19 June	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
26 June	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux



All are welcome to join us. Masks and social distancing still strongly recommended in consideration for the safety of immunocompromised and unvaccinated individuals. Worship with us in the church, on Facebook or YouTube Sunday at 10 a.m.


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						
1 3rd S of Easter wht 10am Worship w/Lord's Supper Plant Sale by M & Ms-page 3	2	3 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	4	5 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am CE Mtg 7pm	6	7 AA 10:30am Work Day 9am See <i>PROJECTS</i> on page 5 Kuntzman Family-Private event
8 4th S of Easter wht 10am Worship Aft wrshp-Board Mtgs by zoom in person: Deacons	9 Council Mtg 7pm	10 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	11	12 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am BLOOD DRIVE 2:30-6:30pm page 3	13 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	14 AA 10:30am
15 5th S of Easter wht The Ivy Vine Articles DUE 10am Worship	16	17 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	18 Men's Luncheon 11:30am The Country Club 288 Lamp and Lantern Village	19 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	20	21 AA 10:30am
22 6th S of Easter wht 10am Worship HWY CLEAN-UP AFTER WORSHIP page 5	23	24 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	25	26 Ascension of Jesus AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	27	28 AA 10:30am
29 7th S of Easter wht 10am Worship	30 Memorial Day-Office closed	31 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm	June 1	June 2 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	June 3	June 4 AA 10:30am

IN JUNE: 2ND Christian Ed. Meeting **13th** Council Meeting **15th** The Ivy Vine articles due
15th Men's Lunch 11:30am, @ Satchmo's **21st** Mary & Martha Women's Group 1pm

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		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