



2022 October



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From **BREAD** and **CUP** to **FAITH** and **GIVING**.

We have launched our Ivy Chapel UCC Autumn Stewardship Voyage! As we journey forward together, we will be receiving fresh wisdom and teaching along the way from our Travel Guide, Jesus Christ. As we are aware, Christian Stewardship is a 24/7, 365-day-a-year calling. God calls us year-round to live joyously, generously giving of the gifts which God has given us. The author of the First Letter of John writes, "We love, because God first loved us." (1 John 4:19) Imagine how a *'faithful steward's' version* might express the thought, "We give, because God first gave to us!" As our Savior Jesus Christ, God calls us to follow the Way of *faith and giving*.

"Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and *stewards* of God's mysteries!" (1 Corinthians 4:1) Faithful Christian Stewardship is "*giving*" in all regards, including talent, time and treasure. Let there be no mistake. Generous *financial* giving is invited and important. Although it is just one facet, *financial* giving is one highly significant facet of our *overall* giving.

Christ offers us many meaningful, life-shaping teachings about *giving*. All are valuable teachings. Christ's whole ministry is centered on *giving*. "Heal the sick; raise the dead; cleanse the lepers; expel demons. *Freely you have received; freely give,*" teaches Jesus. (Matthew 10:8) Christ is a spontaneous, extravagant, joyful *giver*; and Christ calls us to live in the same manner, to walk in Christ's ways. The life of Jesus Christ is a life of *giving*.

We fully recognize that stewardship (like discipleship) is an ongoing, life-long commitment. Yet this is a faithful tradition in which our congregation takes part intentionally observing a stretch of time devoted to re-examining our personal commitments as stewards of God's blessings. Our stewardship theme is ***From Bread and Cup Toward Faith and Giving.***

This autumn voyage is bound to stir us to ask ourselves questions. Some soulful, growing-edge questions that may come up during this season of reflection and self-examination include:

- What abilities, possessions, time and effort am I able to give in support of extending Christ's love toward the well-being of all creation and all humankind?
- What gifts am I currently giving?
- What gifts am I *capable* of giving?
- In what aspects of my personal giving (aka 'stewardship') would it please God to see me grow?

In the late 1980's, Jesuit Priest Henri Nouwen was inspired by a French-Canadian woman, Madame Pauline Vanier, to compose three prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As you and I journey ahead together on this autumn's stewardship voyage, I share with you these excerpts of Father Nouwen's third and concluding prayer based on the Gospel of John 20:19-29:

"Lord Jesus, as I look at the wound in the side of your glorified body and try to enter into the mystery of your resurrection, I am painfully aware of the timidity, the fear and the doubt that fill my own heart. Even though everything is accomplished in you, even though you carry all of humanity within your heart, even though you love me without limit and keep me safe in that love, I live as though there were something important to be found outside of you. I know where my home is. I know where I can safely dwell. I know where I can listen to the voice of love. But still I am restless, searching for what only you can give.

Jesus, look at me in my struggle and show me your compassion. You cry out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me! Let anyone who believes in me come and drink!' But I hesitate and feel pulled in so many directions.

Often, I act as though you are not visible enough, not audible enough, not tangible enough. The world around me is so easy to see, to hear and to touch, and, before I fully realize it, I am already seeing, hearing and touching with much greed and lust - always asking for more and never fully satisfied. And, as I run away from you, pulled by the colors, sounds and substance of my surroundings, I accuse you for not being concrete enough, and I say what your own disciple Thomas said, 'Unless I can put my hands in his side, I refuse to believe.'

O dear Jesus, why can't I simply trust you and the many ways in which you have already shown me your love?... For a long time, I felt jealous of your disciples who saw your pierced side when you appeared to them, and of Thomas who was allowed to touch your wounds. Often, I thought, 'How much easier would it have been to believe in you and to give myself to you without reservation if I could just have been there with them!' But even as I think this way, I know already that I am fooling myself and looking for an excuse to keep my distance from you.

O dear Jesus, your broken heart is so visible and so touchable if I but take the risk of trusting you completely. You are so close to me if I am but willing to open the eyes you have given me...

I see you every time I walk down the streets, every time I watch television or listen to the radio, every time I open a newspaper, every time I pay attention to a woman, a man, or a child who comes to me. I see you every time I let my eyes see the pain of all those with whom I live day after day. You are so close, closer than I ever knew before I looked at your pierced side. You are in my house, on my street, in my town, in my country. You are where I walk and where I sit, where I sleep and where I eat, where I work and where I play. You are never far from me... You who drew all people to yourself as you were lifted up in your pain and in your glory, you stay with us as the wounded and risen Lord. Whenever I touch your broken heart, I touch the hearts of your broken people, and whenever I touch the hearts of your broken people, I touch your heart. Your broken heart and the broken heart of the world are one.

O Lord, it is true. I know it. Every time I overcame the fear of my own wounds and the wounds of those around me and dared to touch them gently, joy and peace came to me in ways I never dreamed of...

Lord Jesus, you always call me closer to your wounded heart. There you want me to know true joy and true peace... There, O dear Lord, is the mystery of your love. I have not seen you, and yet I truly see you every time I look at the broken bodies of my fellow human beings. I have not heard you, and yet I truly hear you every time I hear the cries uttered by people in pain. I have not touched you, and yet I truly touch you every

time I touch all those who come to me in their loneliness. In the midst of all the human brokenness and human pain, I see, hear and touch the heart of humanity, your humanity, the humanity of all the people embraced by your love.

Thank you, Jesus, for your heart. Thank you for showing me your heart. Thank you for letting me see while not seeing, hear while not hearing, touch while not touching. Thank you for letting me believe more every day, hope more every day, love more every day.

My heart is little, fearful and very timid... But you say, 'Come to my heart. My heart is gentle and humble and very broken like yours. Do not be afraid. Come and let your heart find rest in mine and trust that all will be well.' I want to come, Jesus, and be with you. Here I am, Lord, take my heart and let it become a heart filled with your love."
(Heart Speaks to Heart, Henri Nouwen, 1989)

We do not voyage alone. We voyage together. We voyage with one another. Most of all, God voyages with us. This autumn and beyond, let us continue journeying toward God's ever-new horizons; journeying **From Bread and Cup Toward Faith and Giving**,

Bon voyage!
Pastor Dan



Trustees

Regular rainfall this summer kept the Trustees busy with mowing the grounds.

Falling leaves will be the next challenge.

The Pavilion was cleaned in preparation for the Blessing of the Animals in September.

After a few cases of Covid popped up among the congregation, a deep cleaning of the church was undertaken.

The clean-up of Woods Mill Road was done in late August with the final clean-up of 2022 scheduled for November 6.

Sept Council Lifted Up:

♥ Valerie Waterman for assembling the choir and putting together an anthem.

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Please consider helping picking up trash along a designated section of North Woods Mill Road. After

worship on **Nov. 6**

(subject to change)

Please contact Bruce Wilking at 314-640-4902 about helping.



Deacons

We are in need of future volunteers to provide refreshments on the first Sunday of each month. *Please consider hosting this valuable time together and sign up for a Sunday on the list in the narthex.*

We are still **desperately** in need of people to run the sanctuary sound system during worship... It is easier than you may think, and you can start simply by shadowing during worship. Please reach out to **Sarah Wilson** or **Valerie Waterman**, 314-630-3668 (with no obligation) if you have any interest at all...

By the way, all worship participants have been instructed just to talk louder if the mics are not operating on a particular

Children's Message Volunteers:

We are still asking for volunteers to lead the Children's message during worship. We are hoping to have a Children's Message on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The next date for this is October 16, which is Consecration Sunday.

E-KYP (E-KEEPING YOU POSTED)

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

SAVE the DATE

The ImpactLife Annual Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, NOV. 15th from 2:30 -6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Many variables can impact our blood inventories such as weather, holidays or tragic events. Every day, patients who need blood are in crisis and **you can help** by volunteering to donate.

Less than 10% of the population gives blood, so donors that give on a regular basis are important to meet these needs.

To schedule an appointment or for more information please visit bloodcenter.org.



Scripture & Worship

2 Oct, 17th Sunday aft Pentecost: Lamentations 1:1-6; 3:19-26, Psalms 37:1-9; 137; Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4, 2 Timothy 1:1-14, Luke 17:5-10

9 Oct, 18th Sunday aft Pentecost: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7, Psalms 66:1-12; 111; 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c, 2 Timothy 2:8-15, Luke 17:11-19

16 Oct, 19th Sunday aft Pentecost: Jeremiah 31:27-34, Psalms 119:97-104; 121; Genesis 32:22-31, 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5, Luke 18:1-8

23 Oct, 20th Sunday aft Pentecost: Joel 2:23-32, Psalms 65; 84:1-7; Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

30 Oct, 21st Sunday aft Pentecost: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4, Psalms 32:1-7, 119:137-144, Isaiah 1:10-18, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12, Luke 19:1-10

Totenfest Sunday , 1 Nov: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18, Psalm 149, Ephesians 1:11-23, Luke 6:20-31

22nd Sunday aft Pentecost, 6 Nov: Haggai 1:15b-2:9, <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/index.php>



Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

On Sept. 20th we met in the Multipurpose Room briefly and decided that members of M&M would try to find preschool books featuring Afro American children for Caroline Mission Preschool which would be reflective of their students.

Anyone else who would like to contribute such books are welcome to do so. Give them to any of the M&M members. We will finish our collection at our next meeting on Oct. 18th.

Following the meeting, 3 intrepid members journeyed to the MO Botanical Garden on a 97 degree F. day and were led on a Tour of the new Visitors' Center and the water lily ponds by Docent Janet Wasylczak. The new Center was built to have a small ecological footprint, connect visitors to nature and be sustainable long term. Thanks to Janet for all we saw and learned.

We will meet again Oct. 18th at 11:00 a.m. to go to St. Charles for lunch and a visit to the Lewis and Clark Museum.





With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary to...



10/20/1984 Thom and Kathryn Kuntzman

Happy Birthday to...



1 Kevin Wilking
4 Evelyn Celeste Tichy
8 Rose Share
10 Jennifer Faust &
Mark Moody

12 Russel Washburn
13 Rudi Lauer
19 Adam Durham
20 Don Wolff

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

Office Administrator: ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org

Office hours: Monday/Wednesday/Thursday 9:00AM–3:00PM Friday 8:30AM–2:30PM

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

NEW OFFICE HOURS starting in October!! The Church office will now be closed on **Tuesdays**.

OCT CARE CORPS LDR-Gail Thoele 314-576-0091
NOV CARE CORPS LDR-Dottie Foster 314-878-4286

CO-LDR-Dottie Foster 314-878-4286
CO-LDR-Sue Wilson 314-324-3465

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

2-Oct Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz — communion
9-Oct Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
16-Oct Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele
23-Oct Don Wolff and John Weiland
30-Oct Kay and Earl Kreder

6-Nov Myrna and Ralph Weiland — communion
13-Nov Pat and Carl Winship
20-Nov Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
27-Nov 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 items, 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



Getting new eyeglasses? Ask your eye doctor if they will take your old pair to recycle or go to this web site
<https://allaboutvision.com/resources/donate.htm>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <div>2022</div> <div>October</div>  </div>						1 AA 10:30am #350
2 17 th S aft Pentecost grn 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship ✠ w/LS,SS	3	4 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm #349	5	6 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am CE Mtg 7pm	7	8 AA 10:30am #350
9 18 th S aft Pentecost grn 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS Aft wrshp Board Mtgs-CA/Deacons/Trustee-s	10 Council Mtg 7pm	11 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm #349	12	13 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	14 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	15 The Ivy Vine Articles DUE AA 10:30am #350
16 19 th S aft Pentecost grn 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS	17	18 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	19 Men's Luncheon 11:30am- Yellowstone Café 165 Lamp & Lantern Vlg, Twn & Ctry, 6362070501	20 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	21	22 AA 10:30am #350
23 20 th S aft Pentecost grn 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS	24	25 AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm #349	26	27 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	28	29 AA 10:30am #350
30 21 st S aft Pentecost grn 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS	31 Reformation Day	November 1 All Saints' Day AA S.O.S 10-11am AA 12pm #349	November 2	November 3 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	November 4	November 5 AA 10:30am #350

IN NOVEMBER: **21st** Council Meeting **15th** The Ivy Vine articles due **15th** Mary & Martha Women's Grp 1pm
16th Men's Lunch 11:30am @ Spiro's **6th** HWY Clean-UP **27th** Hanging of the Greens

AA=Alcoholics Anonymous CA=Christian Action CC=Chancel Choir CE=Christian Education EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion		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		

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