



The Ivy Vine

**November
2022**



Dan Wilson, Pastor
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Giving

Our faith community was inspired and challenged several Sundays in a row recently as we shared together an Autumn Stewardship Journey, which we called: From Bread and Cup Toward Faith and Giving. Together, we invited one another to reflect and pray for God's guidance revealing gifts which we are able to give in Christ's service. I genuinely hope that this time of intentional emphasis on commitment to Christ's ministries was fruitful for you personally.

Next, we are about to venture ahead together into the time of year which has been nick-named "the season of giving." This stretch of time encompasses Thanksgiving Day, Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday, Advent, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Notice, I have tossed in more than a few secular occasions. Earthly life resembles this list in that this life is a mixed bag; that is, a combination of the sacred and the secular and everything in between!

A sibling of ours in the United Church of Christ, the Rev. Dr. Robin Meyers, has this to say regarding *the giving of gifts*: "Our society has preserved this custom but compromised it by both obligation and excess... What we might consider more often is the *occasion-less* gift, the token of simple affection and consideration... consider a gift of something you have created yourself... We all have something to give one another, and it's not a competition. It's a form of communion... What people really crave is not the object per se, but a gift which in itself indicates *thoughtfulness*... There need be no special occasion,... And when you can, imagine what sort of gift will make someone smile, and then give it for no other reason." (Morning Sun on a White Piano: Simple Pleasures and the Sacramental Life, Galilee Doubleday, NY, 1998, pp. 59-63) Giving a gift is a form of communion. Yes, true giving is sacred.

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I don't know about you, but I personally miss our pre-pandemic, customary actions of presenting offering gifts to God during worship. I miss the bringing forward of the day's offering gifts and the physical placing of the offering plates on God's altar. I also miss the singing of the Doxology (or an equivalent hymn of praise). One of the songs which we formerly used as a doxological hymn with regularity was Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart. I invite you to join with me in recalling these precious words: *"Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One. Give thanks, because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. And now, let the weak say, 'I am strong.' Let the poor say, 'I am rich,' because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks, give thanks!"*

During worship on Consecration Sunday, October 16th, we remembered the Apostle Paul's repetitive celebration of the grace of Jesus Christ as God's *"free gift"* (in Greek, *'xarisma'* a.k.a. *'charisma'*). What an extravagant, treasured gesture on God's part! In his Letter to the Romans, Paul rejoices by citing God's *"free gift"* 5 times in 3 consecutive verses. Remarkable! Christ Jesus astonishes by giving complete grace and total love to everyone. "... surely the grace of God and the *free gift* in the grace of the one human, Jesus Christ, have abounded for the many." (Romans 5:15) As we continue seeking to walk in the manner of our Gracious Savior, may God steadily observe each of us giving thanks with a grateful heart.

God is the Ultimate Giver.

Now, you be a giver.

We all have something to give. Lead an all-around 'life of giving.' Ready or not, here comes November! This month and throughout the upcoming "season of gift-giving," may God discover you living as an exuberant follower of Christ who freely gives gifts.

Cherish God's *"free gift,"* and give with joyful abandon!

Pastor Dan

"For God so loved the world that God gave God's only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have life eternal." John 3:16

Scripture Worship

All Saints Day, Nov 1: Daniel 7:1-3, Psalm 149, Ephesians 1:11-23, Luke 6:20-31

22nd Sunday aft Pentecost, Totenfest Sunday ,

6 Nov: Haggai 1:15b-2:9, Psalms 17:1-9; 98; 145:1-5, 17-21; Job 19:23-27a, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17, Luke 20:27-38

23rd Sunday aft Pentecost, 13 Nov: Isaiah 12; 65:17-25, Malachi 4:1-2a, Psalm 98, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19

Reign of Christ, Sunday 20 Nov: Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 46, Luke 1:68-79; 23:33-43, Colossians 1:11-20

Thanksgiving Day, Th 24 Nov: Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 100, Philippians 4:4-9, John 6:25-35

27 Nov, First Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44

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



Deacons

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 if you have any interest at all...

Thank you for your support and participation!

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.

Trustees

In October, the Trustees completed a few small projects.

- A toilet valve and a hose bib were fixed
- the broken window in Fellowship Hall was replaced
- Blue Chip Pest Services sprayed and placed spider traps throughout the building
- Furnace filters were replaced, and supplies refilled for the custodian
- The sidewalks were power washed.
- The grass was cut as needed and will be done throughout the winter as required.

The Preschool has asked us, and received permission, to paint the lower hall and the bathrooms and some classrooms. They will provide the paint and folks to do the work. This work will be done without interruption of our activities.

This month, the Woods Mill highway clean-up will be Sunday, Nov. 13, weather permitting.



The Trustees will be helping to get Christmas decorations ready for the Hanging of the Greens on November 27.



Mary^{and}MarthaWmnsGrp

On Oct. 22 nd the Mary and Martha Women's Group met to clean the Ivy Chapel kitchen. We were joined by Gail Thoele and worked on cleaning and organizing the Pantry. The workers included Gail, Jan Wirtz, Pat Winship and Kay Kreder.

Our next meeting will be on Tues., Nov. 22nd at 1 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

After a brief meeting we will carpool to the Holocaust Museum located at 12 Millstone Campus Dr. near the JCCA.

Oct Council Lifted Up:

♥ Members of the vocal ensemble who sang during worship in September. This is in addition to Valerie Waterman who organized and led the group. Thank you for your contribution to the worship service.

♥ "Power Washer Tom Glenn" for power washing the sidewalks around the church office wing to the shed in back of the building.

♥ Jo Ann Moody for her witnessing message during this year's stewardship journey



ImpactLife

Changing The World Together

Ivy Chapel

Masks and appointments required!

Tuesday, November 15 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall 620 N Woods Mill Road

To schedule and appointment scan QR code, or for more information, please visit bloodcenter.org



Save the Date

This year Ivy is again supporting Isaiah 58 Ministries' Buy-A-Bird XXIX program for the holidays. Donations can be made directly through this link i58ministries.org/donate or you can send a check to the church with Buy-A-Bird in the memo line and it will be passed along to Isaiah58 Ministries.



Isaiah 58 Ministries
Buy-A-Bird XXIX

GIVE THANKS

The holiday season is fast approaching. It is a time of family gatherings filled with love and laughter as we celebrate the bounty in our lives.

For many in our community, the holidays also bring the stress of additional expenses surrounding holiday meals and celebrations.

Help us ensure the holidays are bountiful for everyone with a generous donation to Isaiah 58 Ministries.

MAKE A DONATION TODAY!

Online at:
i58ministries.org/donate

or mail a check to:
Isaiah 58 Ministries
2149 S. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63104
(memo: Buy-a-Bird)

\$30 = one holiday meal
\$300 = ten holiday meals

Isaiah 58 MINISTRIES
nourishing community for 50 years

Mark Your Calendars!

- Nov 6 – Totenfest
- Nov 13– Highway Clean-up—contact Bruce Wilking 314-640-4902 for information
- Nov 15—Impact Life Blood Drive 2:30-6:30, RSVP @ bloodcenter.org
- Nov 22—Thanksgiving Service @ St. John's, 7-8 pm (15370 Olive Blvd.)
- Nov 27– Hanging of the Greens
- Dec 3 – Eden UCC 'Cookies to Go' sale-contact office@edenucc.org for more information

With God's Blessings

Happy Anniversary 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

Happy Birthday to...

5 Alicia Carr	14 Norma Pasia
6 Erin Bowman	19 Julie Mc Allister
10 Matthew Amsler	20 Jennifer Wintrode & Tom Kuntzman
11 Brenda Otterson	22 Jackson Mc Neal
11 Kay Kreder	30 Robert Droege
12 Shannon Farrell & Ralph Weiland	

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@ivy chapel.org 314-580-4564 Office Administrator: ivy chapelucc@ivy chapel.org
Office hours: Monday/Wednesday/Thursday 9:00AM-3:00PM Friday 8:30AM-2:30PM

NOV CARE CORPS	LDR-Sue Wilson 314-324-3465	CO-LDR-Gail Thoele 314-576-0091
DEC CARE CORPS	LDR-Debbie Glenn 314-576-3991	CO-LDR-Evelyn Stecher 636-536-6542

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
6-Nov-22	Myrna and Ralph Weiland— communion
13-Nov-22	Pat and Carl Winship
20-Nov-22	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
27-Nov-22	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
4-Dec-22	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele— communion
11-Dec-22	Don Wolff and John Weiland
18-Dec-22	Kay and Earl Kreder
24-Dec-22, Sat. Christmas Eve	Myrna and Ralph Weiland
25-Dec-22 Sun. Christmas Day	Pat and Carl Winship
1-Jan-23	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz— communion






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/>

DD DAILY DEVOTIONAL
Created by the Still Speaking Writers' Group

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/ 	Every Child's Hope https://everychildshope.org Lydia's House https://www.lydiashouse.org UP—Unleashing Potential https://upstl.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/ 	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
		1 All Saints' Day <small>AA S.O.S 10-11am</small> AA 12pm #349	2	3 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am CE Mtg 7pm	4	5 AA 10:30am #350
	6 22nd S aft Pentecost grn Daylight Svg Time Ends TOTENFEST SUNDAY 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship ☩ w/LS,SS	8 <small>AA S.O.S 10-11am</small> AA 12pm #349	9	10 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	11 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	12 AA 10:30am #350
13 23rd S aft Pentecost grn 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS Aft wrshp Board Mtgs -CA/Deacons/ Trustee's HWY CLEAN-UP AFTER WORSHIP	14 Council Mtg 7pm	15 <small>AA S.O.S 10-11am</small> AA 12pm #349 The Ivy Vine Articles DUE Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm Impact Life Blood Drive 2:30-6:30 pm	16 Men's Luncheon 11:30am-Spiro's 1054 N Woods Mill Rd	17 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	18	19 AA 10:30am #350
20 Reign of Christ wht 9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS	21	22 <small>AA S.O.S 10-11am</small> AA 12pm #349 Thanksgiving Service at St. John's 7pm	23	24 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	25	26 AA 10:30am #350 Hanging of the Greens Prep
27 1ST S OF ADVENT prpl HANGING OF THE GREENS NO Adult Bible Study 10am Worship,SS	28	29 <small>AA S.O.S 10-11am</small> AA 12pm #349	30	December 1 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	December 2	December 3 AA 10:30am #350

IN NOVEMBER: 13TH HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP **14th** Council Meeting **15th** The Ivy Vine articles due
15th Mary & Martha Women's Grp 1pm **16th** Men's Lunch 11:30am @ Spiro's

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

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