



# The Ivy Vine

June  
2023



Dan Wilson, Pastor  
[pastordan@ivy-chapel.org](mailto:pastordan@ivy-chapel.org)

## One Sigh

“The Spirit intercedes for us with *sighs* too deep for human words.” These are well-known words from Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

“Lord, you have been our help, throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born, before you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God... For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. You sweep people away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning. In the morning, it springs up and flourishes; in the evening, it fades and withers... All our days pass away under your wrath; our years come to an end like a *sigh*... So teach us to count our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Turn, O Lord. How long? Have compassion on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.”

(Psalm 90:1-2, 4-7, 9, 12-16)

There is something about a *sigh* – even one, solitary *sigh*. It is an exhale; an expression of relief. The psalmist captures this emotion. When life in this world concludes, all of our earthly days come to an end like a *sigh*. One can envision the very Spirit of God intervening on our behalf as each human being exhales our final breath. Recall Christ Jesus on the cross. “It was now about noon, and darkness

came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed... Then Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last." (Luke 23:44-46) As the author of the Fourth Gospel describes, "After this, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, 'I thirst.' A jar full of wine vinegar was there. So they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a branch of hyssop, and lifted it to his mouth. When he had received the vinegar, Jesus said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and delivered up his spirit; gave up the ghost." (John 19:28-30)

The last gasp for air followed by a final *sigh* was Jesus' concluding breath. As the ancient psalm describes, so it comes to pass in the Gospel. He breathed his last. All our days come to an end like a *sigh*. How precious is the gift of one, single *sigh*. Yes, even someone's final *sigh* can be precious beyond words.

"Presto! Change-o!" announces a magician right before revealing the astonishing outcome of a magic trick.

With a style all God's own, *God* announces, "*Be transformed!*" God's announcement may be less flamboyant, perhaps, than the magician's dramatic exclamation. However, God's feat is no less sensational. Indeed, what God can do is far beyond any mere work of magic! God's Word declares, "*Do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.*" (Romans 12:2)

At times, you and I are heard to say, "I don't have all day! I can't wait forever." Yet it is important for us to acknowledge that this is an entirely 'human' sentiment. The Divine does have all day. "*God's love is patient. God's love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. God's love never ends!*" (First Corinthians 13:4, 7-8) So then, let's not over-react. There's no need to become upset. God's Realm is forever.

(Continued on pg. 3)

As Joyce Rupp rejoices, “*Dawn* is the birth of a new day and an opportunity for entering into sacred communion with the Creator. As the darkness of night lifts and the rays of light open up the world to us again, we enter into a time that has a special quality of freshness and vibrancy. Each *dawn* is a miracle worth attending. Each morning is an opportunity to thank the Creator for our life... Life is simply too precious to take for granted. It may be as simple as standing with hands outstretched with a loving heart, but a vital aspect of morning prayer is the intention to unite ourselves with the One who has given us life.

*Creator of the Dawn,  
fill me at daybreak with gratitude,  
with a strong sense of your goodness  
and an amazement at the wonder of my life.  
Dear God,  
today I will pay attention to the ‘seeds’  
that are waiting to be watered and tended.  
I will stop looking for instant solutions to problems  
and be more aware of the opportunities for growth.”  
(Inviting God In, Joyce Rupp, 2001)*

God leads all people toward becoming hopeful, **fruitful souls!** Whoever you are, wherever you are on life’s journey,... you can! “Ask, and it will be given you,” our Savior promises (Matthew 7:7a). Et voilà! Be transformed! Presto! Change-o! Become someone with a light-hearted, joyful, encouraging disposition. Oh, you say that you’d like to, except you’re not sure that you can. Try. Simply ask God. Ask, and be open to receiving God’s help. God will give you a new outlook on life. It will come as a relief - like a cleansing *sigh* or a refreshing *dawn*! My friend, a genuine hope which our Loving Savior Jesus has for you is “*that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*” (Ephesians 3:19)

Treasure each simple *sigh* and each lovely *dawn*,  
*Pastor Dan*

“The Spirit helps us in our weakness;... that very Spirit intercedes for us with *sighs* too deep for words.” (Romans 8:26)



# May Council Lifted Up:

- ♥ Trustees for their accomplishments during the Work Day held Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, and also for their dedication to Ivy Chapel's lawn mowing
- ♥ Gail Thoele in appreciation for her efforts pulling together Ivy Chapel's Lay Leadership and Care Core volunteers.
- ♥ Valerie Waterman for everything she does to enhance Ivy Chapel's worship music program.
- ♥ Earl Kreder for his leadership to remove three dead trees from Ivy Chapel's premises.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH NEWS

St. John's UCC invites all Ivy Chapel youth to attend or help with Vacation Bible School this year.

This year's Vacation Bible School will be held

**July 10 – 14, 2023 (M-F)**

With children attending **9 AM to NOON**

PLUS Special Event on **Sunday, July 16th** during and after worship

The theme is



Register here:

<https://forms.gle/sp9NxR57FVdSictM6>

Registration remains \$35/child.

Volunteers Welcome (age 5th grade +). Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/G35Dh8Amc1TEJkd99>

We guarantee a fun and meaningful week.

NOTE: We reserve the right to close children registration at any time so we can maintain a safe program.

Questions? [ChristianEducation.SJUCC@gmail.com](mailto:ChristianEducation.SJUCC@gmail.com)

# Fellowship

## Ivy Chapel Barbeque Fundraiser

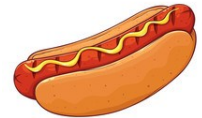
Please join us for a barbeque fundraiser dinner  
at Ivy Chapel on **Saturday, June 10th from 4 PM until 7 PM.**

We are planning to offer meals carry-out style, which can be eaten:

1 —on-site at the church pavilion (weather permitting)

2 —in the Fellowship Hall

3 —or taken to go



Menu options include:

1— a choice of hamburger or bratwurst with two sides  
and a dessert for \$10

2— hot dog with one side and a dessert for \$5

Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the event.

We are looking for volunteers to help with various activities,  
including food preparation, ticketing, serving, and cleanup, and  
volunteers are requested to bring dessert  
(brownies or angel food cake).

A sign up sheet will be placed in the church narthex,  
please contact John Weiland if you are interested in helping  
(636-399-2588 or [jlweiland2003@yahoo.com](mailto:jlweiland2003@yahoo.com)).

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Thanks!  
John



# Mary<sup>and</sup>MarthaWmnsGrp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on May 16<sup>th</sup> briefly and decided not to meet in June, but to meet in July to plan the Salad Luncheon for July 30<sup>th</sup>. We also plan to have a Dessert for a Dollar Bake Sale on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Following our brief meeting we went to the Historical Village at Faust Park and strolled back in time for a little over an hour.

We started a Crochet Project in February to make caps for Premie Babies at Missouri Baptist Hospital. Pat Winship crochets beautifully and tried to teach the rest of us (with limited success). However, Pat continued crocheting and is getting to one hundred little caps made with love for the tiny babies. What a wonderful gift! Thank you, Pat.

## Trustees

The month of May saw both outdoor and indoor projects completed. Mulch was spread in the flower beds at the front of the Church and the islands. In addition, three dead trees were removed from the property. All of the windows were cleaned inside and out, and pews were cleaned and oiled.

In June, there are more outdoor projects planned for the pavilion and parking lots. We hope to replace the sprinkler pipes to the front signs in advance of the hot weather.

Thank you to all who participated in the Church clean-up day and who help us accomplish these projects each month.



# With God's Blessings

## Happy Anniversary to...



6/6/1970 Rod and Judy Hertenstein  
6/9/1978 Mark and Jo Ann Moody  
6/15/1974 Peter LaSalle and Sally Dodge  
6/18/1994 Rich and Sarah Heend  
6/19/2010 Erin and Michael Winship  
6/20/1959 Jim and Diann Sheahan  
6/20/1987 Bruce and Janet Wilking  
6/22/1991 Dan and Sue Wilson  
6/24/1967 Bill and Norma Pasia  
6/25/1966 Jack and Ann Molyneaux  
6/28/1969 Ralph and Myrna Weiland



## Happy Birthday to...

1 Cindy Kettler  
3 John Weiland  
8 Curt Wintrode  
10 Marsha Fix  
14 Krissy Lowry  
Gavin Tichy  
15 Carl Winship  
16 Jason Lowry  
21 Sarah Scott



22 Heide Lauer  
24 Nelie Mc Neal  
Amy Kavalauskas  
Rory Winship  
30 Nancy Litzinger



### **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.

## Scripture & Worship

**4 June 2023, Trinity Sun, First Sunday after**

**Pentecost:** Genesis 1:1—2:4a, Psalm 8, 2  
Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-20

**11 June 2023 Second Sun after Pentecost:**

Genesis 12:1-9, Psalm 33:1-12,  
Romans 4:13-25, Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

**18 June 2023, Third Sun after Pentecost:**

Genesis 18:1-15 [21:1-7],  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, Romans 5:1-8,  
Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

**25 June 2023, Fourth Sun after Pentecost:**

Genesis 21:8-21, Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17,  
Romans 6:1b-11, Matthew 10:24-39

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



All are welcome to join us.  
Masks are still 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/>



**DAILY  
DEVOTIONAL**  
Created by the StillSpeaking Writers' Group

# Serving God's People

## Greeter/Usher Schedule May

DATE	GREETERS/USHERS
4 June 2023	Myrna and Ralph Weiland- <b>communion</b>
11 June 2023	Julie McAllister and Dave Mentzel
18 June 2023	Diann and Jim Sheahan
25 June 2023	Pat and Carl Winship
2 July 2023	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz - <b>communion</b>

## CARE CORPS

- JUN — Kay Kreder  
314-878-5296
- JUL — DIANN SHEAHAN  
314-275-2913

### Assisting in Lay Ministry:

Please find your Name to see the date you are scheduled to help.  
If you're unable to attend please switch with others serving on another date  
**AND let Gail Thoele know**  
314-576-0091/314-591-0057.






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 numbers below.

Pastor Dan Wilson: [pastordan@ivychapel.org](mailto:pastordan@ivychapel.org) / 314-580-4564

Office Administrator-Kara White: [ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org](mailto:ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org) / 314-434-4991

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

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

<p><b>CIRCLE OF CONCERN—Shopping and monthly needs List</b> is on FH bulletin board. Place on <b>TOP SHELF</b>. 636-861-2623 <a href="https://www.circleofconcern.org/">https://www.circleofconcern.org/</a> </p> <p><b>Isaiah 58 Ministries Bag of Blessings</b> list on FH bulletin board. Place on <b>3rd-4th SHELVES</b>:  food items, egg cartons, clothing, plastic bags, glass cases. <a href="https://i58ministries.org/">https://i58ministries.org/</a></p>	<p><b>Every Child's Hope</b> <a href="https://everychildshope.org">https://everychildshope.org</a> <b>Lydia's House</b> <a href="https://www.lydiashouse.org">https://www.lydiashouse.org</a> <b>UP—Unleashing Potential</b> <a href="https://upstl.org">https://upstl.org</a></p> <p><b>INSTITUTO EL REY:</b> Explore the website how YOU can help students in rural northern Honduras pursue their dreams. <a href="http://www.ierschool.org">www.ierschool.org</a> </p>
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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
				<b>1</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>4</b> TRINITY SUN wht <b>10am Worship /</b> †LS	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 StLBG 1:30-3pm	<b>7</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>8</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> AA 10:30am #350  <b>BBQ Fundraiser</b> <b>4-7</b> 
<b>11</b> 2nd S aft Pentecost grn <b>10am Worship</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Council Mtg</b> <b>7pm</b>	<b>13</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 StLBG 1:30-3pm	<b>14</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>15</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm  <b>The Ivy Vine</b> <b>Articles DUE</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>18</b> 3rd S aft Pentecost grn <b>10am Worship</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 StLBG 1:30-3pm  <b>Mary &amp; Martha</b> <b>Wms Grp 1pm</b>	<b>21</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm  <b>Men's Luncheon</b> <b>11:30am-</b> <b>Satchmo's 13375</b> Olive Boulevard	<b>22</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>25</b> 4th S aft Pentecost grn <b>10am Worship</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 StLBG 1:30-3pm	<b>28</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>29</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>30</b>	July 1 AA 10:30am #350

**LOOKING AHEAD IN JULY: 4TH– INDEPENDENCE DAY 10TH– Council Meeting 15th Ivy Vine articles due**  
**18th Mary & Martha Women's Grp 1pm 19th Men's Lunch 11:30am @ Talayna's Italian Pizza**  
**30th Mary & Martha Salad Fundraiser**

<b>AA=Alcoholics Anonymous</b> <b>CC=Chancel Choir</b> <b>EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial</b>	<b>CA=Christian Action</b> <b>CE=Christian Education</b> <b>Pavilion</b>	<b>FH = Fellowship Hall</b> <b>LL=LOWER LEVEL</b> <b>M&amp;M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP</b>	<b>KYP=KEEPING YOU POSTED</b> <b>LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER</b>	<b>JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL</b> <b>SY=SANCTUARY</b> <b>SLBG= St. Luke's Bereavement Group</b>	<b>TKD= INERTIA MARTIAL ARTS</b>
	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

Ivy Chapel UCC  
620 North Woods Mill Road  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
[ivy chapelucc@ivy chapel.org](mailto:ivy chapelucc@ivy chapel.org)  
314-434-4991  
[twitter@ivy chapel](https://twitter.com/ivy chapel)  
[www.facebook.com/IvyChapel](https://www.facebook.com/IvyChapel)  
[www.ivychapel@ivy chapel.org](http://www.ivychapel@ivy chapel.org)



**Dan Wilson, Pastor**