



# *The Ivy Vine*

2023

## *December*



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

# New Arrival

Go to an airport and, even before parking your vehicle, you are greeted by signs with arrows pointing you in the direction of either 'Departures' or 'Arrivals.' Once inside the airport terminal, you cannot elude clusters of electronic monitors displaying flight numbers, up-to-the-minute points of origin and departure times, destinations and arrival times. All of this is helpful information.

In first century Palestine, Mary and Joseph did not enjoy such luxuries. True, God's Archangel Gabriel did inform Mary that - *lo and behold!* - soon she would be expecting an arrival. However, Gabriel provided no details, no specifics. It may be that God's messenger realized it was already overwhelming enough blowing Mary away with the preposterous revelation of her approaching pregnancy! Gabriel did not supply Mary with a time or a location when this Messiah would be coming in for an earthly landing.

After the Annunciation, Mary was aware that she was going to give birth to a child. Yet she was unaware of the birthplace; unaware that she would be bearing her baby all the way to the City of David before he was born! This makes it all the more remarkable that Mary responded to Gabriel, agreeing, "Behold, your handmaid, the servant of the Lord. Let it be with me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

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She knows not where. She knows not when. Even so, Mary trusts God has a role for her to serve in the birth of this holy, new arrival. Speaking words of wisdom; let it be. Oh, that our souls similarly may proclaim the greatness of God and exult in God our Savior! (Luke 1:47)







The Christian Church is highly intentional about preparing to celebrate Christmas Day - the Holy Birth of the Christ-Child. Big events require substantial time to get ready. The four Sundays of Advent are our prep time.

As God's Church today readies itself for a 2023 celebration of our Savior's birth, may our souls be captivated once again by God's exceptional starlight! May we mimic Mother Mary - pondering how we will serve Eternal God; trusting that this very moment God is about to do something **"new"** (Isaiah 43:19; Revelation 21:5); something **"marvelous"** (Psalm 118:23; First Peter 2:9); something **"for all the world"** (Luke 2:14; John 3:16-17).

Wait. Watch. Worship.

A new arrival is coming,  
*Pastor Dan*

## November Council Lifted Up:

-  For care of the building, grounds, parking, and clean-up, in connection with the Memorial Service celebrating the life of Russ Washburn – Frank Purviance, Kara White, Jack Molyneaux, Mark Gerdes, Earl Kreder, Steve Lowry, Don Wolff, Dave Mentzel, Tom Glenn, Debbie Glenn, Julie McAllister, and other “unsung heroes” who helped honor Russ with their service.
-  For the “end of season close-down” of Ivy Chapel’s vegetable garden – Dave Mentzel and Jack Molyneaux.
-  For her hard work and donation deliveries throughout the year on behalf of Christian Action – Kathryn Kuntzman
-  For donating a new pre-lit Christmas tree to enhance Ivy Chapel’s Sanctuary throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons – Dottie Foster.
-  For her role as Ivy Chapel’s “rental agent” and her extra efforts to bring increased facility rental income to Ivy Chapel – Kara White, Ivy Chapel’s Office Administrator.
-  A big “thank you” to Sue Wilson for taking (last minute) meeting minutes at October’s Council Meeting.

# Trustees

The Trustees will be busy in December preparing the church for the holiday season. Fellowship Hall has been busy with rentals increasing and Kara is doing a good job of making them come together.

A workday was held in late October to prepare for the Washburn memorial service and reception which was attended by over 300 people.

The garden was also cleaned and put to bed for the winter.



Trustees collected a large load of scrap to take to Scrap Mart Metals Recycling in Fenton.

A total of over 867 pounds of metal scrap was hauled away in Earls' trailer for a net of \$116.71!

Trash along Woods Mill Road was picked up on November 5. The next clean-up will be in the spring 2024.

## Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

There is NO Mary & Martha Womens Group meeting this month. We will meet again in January, as always, look for more information in the Jan Vine and upcoming KYPs regarding our meetings and ALL are always welcome.



## THANK YOU

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy, love and support you have extended to our family during this time of loss.

From the Washburn Family

Thank you for all of your expressions of sympathy, they have meant so much to me. Russ loved Ivy Chapel.

With Love,

♥ Debbie



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/>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
REGARDING RENTING SPACE  
AT IVY CHAPEL  
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE  
AT 314-434-4991 OR  
IVYCHAPELUCC@IVYCHAPEL.ORG**

### **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

### **E-KYP (E-KEEPING YOU POSTED)**

By end of any Wednesday  
Send your news to Ivy Chapel  
[ivychapellucc@ivychapel.org](mailto:ivychapellucc@ivychapel.org)  
for the weekly e-KYP (e-Keeping You Posted)



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all

# Ivy Chapel wishes you



Be sure to check out the Fellowship Hall bulletin board throughout each month to see news and events from our sister churches and organizations we partner with and support. If you would like to have a flyer placed on the bulletin board please contact the office for more information at 314-434-4991 or [ivuchapelucc@ivychapel.org](mailto:ivuchapelucc@ivychapel.org).

# Scripture & Worship

**3 Dec 2023, First Sun of Advent:** Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

**10 Dec 2023, Second Sun of Advent:** Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

**17 Dec 2023, Third Sun of Advent:** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

**24 Dec 2023, Fourth Sun of Advent:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

**25 Dec 2023, Christmas Day:** Christmas, Proper I (A, B, C) Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 [15-20] Christmas, Proper II (A, B, C) Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20 Christmas, Proper III (A, B, C) Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12] John 1:1-14

**31 Dec 2023 First Sunday after Christmas Day:** Isaiah 61:10—62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40

**6 Jan 2024 Epiphany of the Lord:** Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12  
<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu//index.php>

## UCC Christmas Fund Offering

Each Christmas Eve, and Ivy Chapel UCC tradition is to offer gifts to the United Church of Christ Christmas Fund.

The Christmas Fund cares for UCC retired clergy and lay employees, provides emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums and 'Thank You' Christmas gift checks to low-income servants of the church each December. Your care and compassion are deeply appreciated. Please consider offering a special gift. Ivy Chapel UCC will celebrate 10 am Sunday, December 24th for our Christmas service this year. Christmas Fund offering Envelopes will be available for your use.

Thank you for your gift!

# Happy Birthday to...

2 Christine James  
8 Michael Winship  
10 Jan DeMint Wirtz  
12 Jane Farrell  
13 Valerie Waterman  
16 Emily Pfau  
18 Gary Lindhorst  
19 Audrey Farrell  
26 Morgan Tichy  
27 David Knieriem & Frank Pfau  
28 Catrina Lowry  
29 Scott Schurwan  
31 Jacob Knieriem

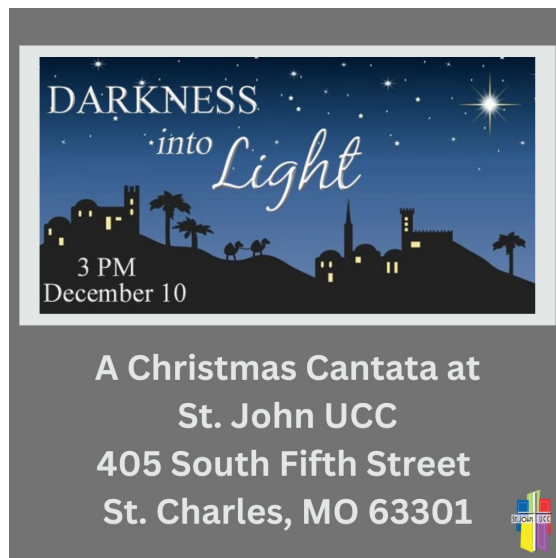


## A Special Invitation

St John UCC would like to cordially invite YOU to a Christmas Cantata! The St John UCC Cancel Choir and Orchestra proudly present "Darkness into Light", a Christmas Cantata, by Mary McDonald on

December 10th at 3 pm  
at St. John UCC, 405 South Fifth Street,  
St. Charles, 63301

All are invited and welcome!





# Serving God's People



## December Schedules

### Greeter/Ushers

DATE	GREETERS/USHERS
3 Dec 2023	<b>Kay and Earl Kreder</b> <b>communion</b>
10 Dec 2023	<b>Myrna and Ralph Weiland</b>
17 Dec 2023	<b>Pat and Carl Winship</b>
24 Dec 2023	<b>Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz</b>
31 Dec 2023	<b>Kathryn Kuntman and Jack Molyneaux</b>
7 Jan 2024	<b>Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele</b> <b>communion</b>

### Liturgists

3 Dec 2023	Jim French
10 Dec 2023	Jo Ann Moody
17 Dec . 2023	n/a
24 Dec . 2023	Sue Wilson
31 Dec . 2023	Ann Molyneaux
7 Jan 2024	Rod Hertenstein

## CARE CORPS

- DEC — Debbie Glenn 314-954-2286 and Evelyn Stecher 636-536-6542
- JAN — Gail Thoele 314-576-0091

### 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/Friday 9:30AM–2:30PM

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/>



**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/>



**RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY**: Place food and personal care items on **2nd SHELF**. [Rccfoodpantry.org](http://Rccfoodpantry.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](http://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
					<b>1</b> Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	<b>2</b> AA 10:30am #350  <b>HANGING OF THE GREENS PREP</b> <b>9:30 AM</b>
<b>3 1ST S OF ADVENT prpl</b> <b>10am Worship/†LS</b>  <b>Congregational Meeting</b>  <b>HANGING OF THE GREENS</b>  AA 6pm YR	<b>4</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>5</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	<b>6</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>7</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> AA 10:30am #350  <b>Private Rental-FH 5-8pm</b>
<b>10 2ND S OF ADVENT prpl</b> <b>10am Worship</b>  AA 6pm YR	<b>11</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm <b>Council Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>12</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349  Deacons-7pm Zoom	<b>13</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>14</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>15</b> <b>The Ivy Vine Articles DUE</b>  <b>Private Rental FH noon-midnight</b>	<b>16</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>17 3RD S OF ADVENT prpl</b> <b>10am Worship/</b>  AA 6pm YR	<b>18</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>19</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	<b>20</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm  <b>Men's Luncheon</b> <b>11:30am-Massa's</b> 14312 S. Outer 40 Rd, Town and Country	<b>21</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>24 4TH S OF ADVENT prpl</b> <b>10am Worship</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> Coffee Fellowship after Worship  <b>Private Rental FH 5-10pm</b>  AA 6pm YR	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b>  <b>Private Rental 11am-5pm</b>	<b>26</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	<b>27</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>28</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>29</b> <b>Square Dancing 3-11pm</b>	<b>30</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>31 1st S after Christmas Day</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b>  AA 6pm YR	<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>2</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	<b>3</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>4</b> AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AA 10:30am #350

**AHEAD IN JAN: 6TH—EPIPHANY 10TH—Church Officer Installation 15TH—All Boards Meeting 16th Mary & Martha Women's Grp 17th Men's Lunch 11:30am @ Hunan Empress 21st—Children's Worship and Coffee Hour 22nd— Council Meeting 28th Annual Meeting 11 am**

<b>LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER</b> <b>KYP=KEEPING YOU POSTED</b> <b>M&amp;M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP</b>		<b>FH = Fellowship Hall</b> <b>EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion</b> <b>SY=SANCTUARY</b>		<b>AA=Alcoholics Anonymous</b> <b>JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL</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

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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**