



The Ivy Vine

2024

February

Receiving



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivychapel.org

The high, holy day which leads off the Lenten Season is Ash Wednesday. This sacred occasion begins the Church's 40-day spiritual journey to Resurrection Day. "Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing." (Joel 2:13)

Joyce Rupp wonders what brings people to turn out for worship on Ash Wednesday. "Perhaps it is the call to 'return.' Maybe a sense of hope is kindled in hearts by the possibility of coming back to God and trying once more to strengthen one's faith. I think it may also be the realization that there is always a part of one's heart that has not yet been given over to God. When we look within, we see that there is still more that needs to be brought home to the Holy One." (Joyce Rupp, Inviting God In, 2001) The foundation of the Season of Lent is the calling for return to God and for repentance from evil.

In 1936, the Rev. Dr. J. Edwin Orr participated in a thrilling Easter Revival in Ngaruawahia, New Zealand. Inspired by the stirring of the Holy Spirit during this gathering, as he was leaving New Zealand after the revival had concluded, Dr. Orr composed the lyrics of the hymn "Cleanse Me." These are words which he wrote on the back of an envelope in the post office:

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;
Fulfill Thy Word and make me pure within;
Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame;
Grant my desire to magnify Thy name.

(Continued on pg. 2)

Composer Dr. Orr identifies the importance of receiving what God offers. This hymn correlates with the “cleansing” theme of Ash Wednesday, which is based on the Scripture: “Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.” (Psalm 51:2)

Christian faith places great emphasis on giving. This is appropriate, for Christ teaches us to lead lives of giving and outreach. However, in order for people to become Christian givers, we must first receive from God. Receiving and accepting God’s gift of grace is every disciple’s starting point. Then, in turn, we may serve God as givers. May the Season of Lent 2024 find us learning to become wholehearted, faithful receivers.

Learning to become a receiver,
Pastor Dan

“We are reminded in many ways of the quiet ministry of the living God in our lives and in life that abounds around us. The little healings of the silent breaches, the great redemptive acts when times are out of joint, the lifting of our horizons of hope when to have hope seems to be against all wisdom and against all judgment, the stirring of the will to forgive when for so long a time we have been buried under an avalanche of great hostilities - there are so many ways by which the ministry of the living God tutors the spirit, corrects the times, gives lift to the days.”

- Howard Thurman, The Centering Moment, 1969

Scripture & Worship

4 Feb 2024, Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111,
1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

11 Feb 2024, Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany:

Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians
9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39

14 Feb 2023, Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians
5:20b—6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

18 Feb 2024, First Sunday in Lent: Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15

25 Feb 2024, Second Sunday in Lent: Genesis

17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

3 Mar 2024, Third Sunday in Lent: Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

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



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all



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/>

Trustees

The Trustees kept busy in 2023 with the completion of several major projects:

- Several dead trees were cut down and dead limbs removed from other trees. Logs from the dead trees were used to rebuild washed out parts of the lane that goes from the lower lot up toward Fellowship Hall.
- A workday was held in late October to prepare for the Washburn memorial service and reception which was attended by over 300 people.

In 2024, we hope to tackle some major projects in addition to the regular mowing, trimming, raking, and general maintenance of the grounds. The new projects include:

- Fix drainage at Pavilion
- Replace sprinkler pipe - steps to sign
- Seal and restripe parking lot – (contractor)
- Inspection of fire extinguisher – (contractor)
- Certification of Fire Alarm – (contractor)

The tentative dates for the clean-up of our mile of Woods Mill Road are Sunday, March 3; Sunday, May 19; Sunday, August 18; and Sunday, Nov. 3.

Thanks to all who help the Trustees with these projects: Don Wolff, Steve Lowry, Mark Gerdes, Julie McAllister, and Dave Mentzel to name just a few.

Mary^{and}MarthaWmnsGrp

A few Intrepid Women met on a very cold snowy Jan 16th to make plans as follows for our coming year.

Feb.—Trip to Antarctica by Linda Lowry

Mar.—Lenten Devotion with Pastor Dan –
Second Tuesday, Mar. 12th.

Apr.—Making folded cards with Dottie Foster and Plan for Dessert for A Dollar on April 21st.

May—Trip to Recycling Center

June—No Meeting

July—Plan Salad Luncheon for July 21st

Aug.—Dessert for a Dollar on Aug. 25th -
Need Program

**Our next meeting is 1p.m. Feb. 20th
in the multipurpose room—**



Chili Supper

Our annual Chili Supper is back! Be sure to mark your calendar to join us on

Sat., March 2nd

from 4:30-7 pm

as we come together
for fellowship, food and fun!

More details to come.



January Council Lifted Up:



- ♥ Kathryn Kuntzman, Rachel Benitez Borrego, Sarah Reifschneider, and Sarah Wilson (as narrator), for the cello concert and narration during the December 17th worship service
- ♥ Valerie Waterman for her vocal contribution to the Christmas Eve worship service.
- ♥ Sue Wilson for baking several dozen homemade Christmas cookies for Ivy's youth to decorate during the Christmas Eve worship service.
- ♥ Sarah Wilson for initiating discussion of an "Opening and Affirming Covenant" for Ivy Chapel and developing documents for better understanding by Ivy's Congregation.

WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS

Happy Birthday to...

- 2 Isabella Del Carmen
- 3 Carol Faust
Gregory Scott
- 14 Diann Sheahan
- 16 Paul Farrell
- 17 Dan Wilson
- 20 Joe Del Carmen
Marg Ivey
- 23 Kate Mc Neal
- 27 Taylor Cox



Our Deepest Thanks

To the Whole Ivy Family-

We so deeply appreciate your countless concerns and prayers, the comforting words of your kind and caring expressions and the numerous acts of your selfless giving. We were truly embraced, lifted and loved.

Thank you, thank you.

Rod Hertenstein and family

Ash Wednesday Prayer

*Lord, all year we try to avoid dust and ash.
Dust is the homes we have failed to clean
and our broken dreams long abandoned.
Ash is the world engulfed in flames
and ancient bodies in unmarked graves.
Lord, all year we try to avoid dust and ash.
But here we are.
And here you are.
And it is Wednesday.
And we face reality.
And you insist dust and ash be pressed to our
flesh. We are fragile failures one day to be
scorched by fire and snacked on by worms.
Yet when it becomes too heavy, you
whisper in our ears true things that are also
sweet:
"It was into dust and ash I breathed, and you
awoke."
Breathe again, Lord,
and command us fragile figures to walk on.
Lord, let us remember it all -
dust and ash, death and deliverance.
And especially you.
Amen.*

Robert Paul Fugarino, Alive Now, 2014

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

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
ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org.

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)

**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

Coming up for Ivy Chapel:

Feb 8 — Guest Lecturer at Graham Memorial Chapel —7 PM

Feb 14— Ash Wednesday Service 1 PM

Feb 20 – Mary & Martha @ 1pm

Feb 21— Men's Luncheon @ 11:30-Duffy's Pub

Mar 2 — 4:30-7 PM Chili Supper

Mar 10 —Daylight Savings Begins

Mar 24— Palm Sunday

Mar 29 —Good Friday

Mar 31 — Easter



Activities and Dates for 2024

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Feb 14, 1:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

Mar 29 Time TBD

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Mar 2 4:30-7 PM **CHILI SUPPER**

Apr 21— Dessert for \$1

Jun 8— BBQ Time TBD

July 28— **Salad Fundraiser**

Aug 25— Dessert for \$1

CHRISTIAN ACTION BOARD

- **YEAR ROUND:** Ongoing food collections/ donations to Circle of Concern, Isaiah 58, and Ritenour Co-Care Food Pantry
- **Four Lenten Offerings**
February and March
- **One Great Hour of Sharing**-most likely Apr-
Date tbd
- **Back-to-School Collection Drive for Isaiah 58 OR Circle of Concern**
Date to be determined-late Jul or early Aug
- **Blessing of the Animals** (in partnership with the Deacons Board)-Sep 14

- **Buy-A- Bird Program for Isaiah 58**

Ministries-Nov

- **Every Child's Hope "Grant-a-Wish"**-Dec

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

Sundays Mar 3, May 19, Aug 18, and Nov 3

Contact Bruce Wilking, 314-640-4902
about helping.

CHURCH WORK DAYS

Spiffy up the church and the grounds on
Saturdays in May and Aug— dates TBD
Check with Frank Purviance 314-469-1953
to help.

BLOOD DRIVE

May 9 4:00– 7:30 PM

Nov 7 Time TBD

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS in Sep 14, 1-3PM

2023 STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, Sep 22, 2024-Start date

Sunday, Oct 6, 2024-visiting Steward

Sunday, Oct 13, 2024-Consecration Sunday

Partner Organizations' Up Coming Events



Mardi Gras Pancake Supper

Isaiah 58 Ministries

2149 South Grand Blvd.

Feb. 13, 2024 — 6-7:30 pm

FREE and Open to the Public
Come kick off the season of Lent
with pancakes, music and fun!

For more information call 314-776-1410

All are invited to join us on
Thursday, Feb. 8th at 7:00 PM in the
Graham Memorial Chapel at Washington
University in St. Louis to
welcome the **Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III**,
Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of
Christ, Chicago as this year's guest
Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman
Memorial Lecturer.

Rev. Moss will be speaking on his latest book,
"Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for
Thriving in Turbulent Times."

Presented in collaboration with the Interfaith
Partnership of Greater St. Louis.

This event is FREE and open to the public!

Please contact the church office if you would like more information.

**Rabbi Ferdinand M.
Isserman Lecture**
**Featuring Rev.
Dr. Otis Moss III**

February 8 | 7 p.m.
Graham Memorial Chapel at
Washington University in St. Louis
The event is **free** and open
to the public.

Office for Religious,
Spiritual and Ethical Life
STUDENT AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Interfaith Partnership
of Greater St. Louis



A Night for Hope and Healing will
be held on March 2, 2024 at the
DoubleTree by Hilton St. Louis -
Chesterfield.

16625 Swingley Ridge Rd
Chesterfield, MO 63017

Doors open at 5:30pm;
Dinner at 7pm.

Tickets-- \$150 per person

Tables-- \$1500 for 10 persons

Serving God's People

February Schedules

Greeter/Ushers

11 Feb 2024	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
14 Feb 2024	Kay and Earl Kreder- Ash Wednesday-- communion server Gail Thoele
18 Feb 2024	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele
25 Feb 2024	Myrna and Ralph Weiland
3 March 2024	Don Wolff and John Weiland communion server

Liturgists

4 Feb 2024	Sue Wilson
11 Feb 2024	Jo Ann Moody
18 Feb 2024	-----
25 Feb 2024	Jan Wirtz
3 Mar 2024	Pat Winship

CARE CORPS

- JAN — Gail Thoele 314-576-0091
- FEB — Pat Winship 636-394-5991

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 / 314-580-4564

Office Administrator-Kara White: 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/>




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



RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY: Place food and personal care items on **2nd SHELF**. Rccfoodpantry.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 Presentation of the Lord AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am	2	3 AA 10:30am #350
4 4th S aft Epiphany Grn 10am Worship /† LS AA 6pm YR	5 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	6 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	7 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	8 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	9 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	10 AA 10:30am #350
11 5th S aft Epiphany Grn 10am Worship AA 6pm YR	12 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Council Mtg 7pm	13 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Deacons-7pm Zoom	14 TKD 5:30-6:30pm ASH WEDNESDAY 1PM SERVICE	15 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm The Ivy Vine Articles DUE	16	17 AA 10:30am #350
18 1st S in Lent prpl 10am Worship AA 6pm YR	19 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	20 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	21 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Men's Luncheon 11:30am- Duffy's Pub and Grill 1024 Schnucks Woods Mill Plaza	22 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	23	24 AA 10:30am #350 Private Event 3-8:30pm FH
25 2nd S in Lent prpl 10am Worship AA 6pm YR	26 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	27 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	28 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	29 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	March 1	March 2 AA 10:30am #350

AHEAD IN MAR: 3RD– HWY CLEAN-UP AFTER WORSHIP 10TH– DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS
11TH–Council Meeting **17th–**Children's Worship and Coffee Hour **19th** Mary & Martha Women's Grp
20th Men's Lunch 11:30am @ Stackhouse
24th PALM SUNDAY **29TH** GOOD FRIDAY **31st** EASTER SUNDAY

LS=THE LORD'S SUPPER KYP=KEEPING YOU POSTED M&M GRP=MARY AND MARTHA WOMEN'S GROUP		FH = Fellowship Hall EMMP=Eric Moody Memorial Pavilion SY=SANCTUARY		AA=Alcoholics Anonymous JRWP=JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND PRESCHOOL TKD= INERTIA MARTIAL ARTS	
	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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Dan Wilson, Pastor