



The Ivy Vine

March
2026



Rev. Dr. Carol Trissell

*“To everything, turn, turn, turn
There is a season, turn, turn, turn
And a time for every purpose under heaven”*

You may recognize this song by The Byrds that was popular in 1965. The lyrics are taken from the Book of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament. The song, written by Pete Seeger, is an almost verbatim usage of the first eight verses of Ecclesiastes 3.

March is a turning time. We move our clocks forward one hour on March 8. We leave Winter behind and move into Spring at the vernal equinox on March 20. In the lectionary readings for worship, we are turning towards Jerusalem as Jesus journeys to the cross. Palm Sunday on March 29 will mark the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

We at Ivy Chapel are making a turn in the interim process as well. The Interim Transition Team has completed surveys regarding our current and future ministries and programs. They have also surveyed our church community regarding desired attributes for our next Settled Pastor. These documents will be totaled and communicated to the Church Council for their March meeting. Summaries will be published to the congregation after the Council meeting in March.

In March, the Interim Transition team will again host Coffee Fellowships on March 8 & 15. During the fellowship time, the Team will facilitate some opportunities for our community to “Dream God’s Dream” for the future of Ivy Chapel. The purpose, vision, and mission statements of the United Church of Christ as well as Ivy’s mission statement and Open & Affirming Covenant continue to be our foundational documents to guide us into that future. Yet, it is time to examine where God is speaking now. It is time to hope and dream of where the Spirit may be leading us.

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With the completion of these final tasks, the Interim Transition Team will bring their ministry to a close. Please join me in thanking Dottie Foster, Jim French, Tom Glenn, Tara Lowry, Gail Thoele, Valerie Waterman, and Jan Wirtz for their service in this vital role. It has been a joy to minister with them!

Ivy Chapel's transition now moves to forming the Pastoral Search Committee. Once formed, they will begin their work with the guidance of Rev. Damien Lake, the Associate Conference Minister in the Missouri Mid-South Conference. Their initial work will be to create/update the church profile in preparation for posting a position for a Settled Pastor.

Please pray for Ivy Chapel and all our leaders as we make this turn into the future. Rest assured the One who led us for 60+ years will continue to lead us onward to fulfill all that God's dreams!

Scripture Worship

1 Mar 2026, Second Sun in Lent: Psalm 121, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

8 Mar 2026, Third Sun in Lent: Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11

15 Mar 2026, Fourth Sun in Lent: Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14

22 Mar 2026, Fifth Sun in Lent: Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

29 Mar 2026, Sixth Sun in Lent, Palm Sun: Matthew 21:1-11 and 26:14—27:66,
Psalm 31:9-16 and 118:1-2 and 19-29, Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11

Maundy Thursday: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14, Psalm 116:1-2 and 12-19,
1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17 and 31b-35

Good Friday: Isaiah 52:13—53:12, Psalm 22, Hebrews 10:16-25 and 4:14-16 and 5:7-9,
John 18:1—19:42

5 Apr 2026, Easter Sunday: Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6, Psalm 118:1-2 and 14-24,
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

www.lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu



PASTORAL SEARCH NEWS

Each month the Ivy Chapel Council will provide an update to the Ivy community in the monthly newsletter, The Ivy Vine, regarding the search for our new Pastor.

If there are special updates those will also be announced in the weekly KYP's and posted on the website.

[Please click here to go directly to the updated page – Our Pastor Search.](#)

You can also navigate there from the front page of our website. Start by clicking on the “ABOUT OUR CHURCH” button. A drop-down menu will appear, and under the “Our Staff” tab please click the link titled “Our Pastor Search” .

SEARCH UPDATE:

The Interim Transition Team (ITT) members are Dottie Foster, Jim French, Tom Glenn, Tara Lowry, Gail Thoele, Valerie Waterman, and Jan Wirtz. Please see one of our team members or Pastor Carol if you have questions or suggestions during our Interim transition process

Thank you for participating in the surveys during the month of February.

The Feb 8th survey, “Our Ministries”, focused on the current ministries and Programs at Ivy Chapel and the Feb 15th survey, “Our Settled Pastor”, concentrated on the qualities desired in a Settled Pastor for Ivy.

The surveys were online after each session and will be available until Monday, March 2nd if you have not yet participated.

Please contact the office for a link to either or both surveys.

Thank you!

Lent and Easter Opportunities

Christian Action

This year Ivy Chapel will be supporting Unleashing Potential for our Lenten Extra Mile Offering. The collection will begin on Sunday, March 8th and continue through Palm Sunday, March 29th.



Unleashing Potential is a UCC sponsored non profit that provides preschool, after school care, tutoring and activities as well as summer camps for children with limited resources. Donations can be placed in the offering plate, Be sure to use the **bright envelopes** found in the pews for this special Lenten Offering opportunity. Please designate Unleashing Potential in the memo line for any checks. Thank you for your support of the children!

Deacons

Easter Lilies will be on sale through April 13th to brighten the sanctuary on Easter morning.

They are \$10.00 each. For more information please see Donna Grote or any Deacon.



Youth Easter Cookie Fundraiser



Aren't you tired of chocolate Easter bunnies and sugary Peeps that look so adorable and yet are never enough for your sweet tooth? Never fear, Easter cookies are here! The youth will be selling Easter cookies this year. They are accepting Easter cookie orders during the month of March after each church service in the Narthex. Cookie orders will then be available for pick up on Easter Sunday after 10 am worship.

News From Around Ivy

Spring Directory Time!

Please let Kara know in the office if you have any changes that need to be made to your contact information for 2026 by March 20th. The new directory will be available in April.

Thank You!

Thank you Ivy Family of faith for your prayers, phone calls, food and transportation during our recent weeks of illness and struggles. We appreciate your care and support.

With Love, Ann & Jack M.

Love and Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt love and sympathy to Debbie and Tom Glenn and the entire family with the passing of Debbie's mom this week.

Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

Rummage Sale



Check your garages, clean out your closets and check your storage spaces for items to donate for Ivy Chapel's Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 25th from 8am- 3pm.

Items can be dropped off on Thursday and Friday, April 23rd and 24th from 9:30 am to 8:00 pm.

Please contact the office for more information at 314-434-4991 or email ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org

February Council Lifted Up:



John Weiland for creating (both literally and figuratively) this year's Elmer Awards and Whale of a Fellow Award – always a fun time for all!

Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on Feb. 17th with Pastor Carol Trissell who brought a Lenten Devotion to us during which we read Psalm 51, verses 1-17. This

Psalm was David's plea for forgiveness after being with Bathsheba. We discussed God's forgiveness and trusting in that and also forgiving ourselves so that we may go forward with the positive things God wants us to do.

Thank you, Pastor Carol.

Several cards were written to ill or grieving members and we looked forward to cleaning the kitchen next month. (Really?) We are planning to collect twin sheets for Lydia's House in May and suggestions have been made to look for them at Dillard's Discount Store in Mid Rivers Mall in St. Peters, Ollies in Ellisville on Manchester or a sale.

Trustees

Is winter over? We will be looking for a stretch of warmer weather to start cleaning up the grounds. The gutters on Fellowship Hall will need to be replaced and we are in the process of getting bids. The first 2026 clean-up of Woods Mill Road will be Sunday, March 1.



Mark your Calendars for Saturday April 25th from 8am to 3pm for Ivy Chapel's 2026 Rummage Sale.

Items for the sale can be brought to church Thursday and Friday, April 23&24 from 9:30 am to 8pm.

If you have any questions or would like to help that Saturday, please contact Kara in the office 314-434-4991 or ivychapelucc@uvychapel.org.



IVY YOUTH IN ACTION

'Youth Sunday' Planning

What's that in the distance?
Is it a bird? Is it a plane?
No! It's Youth Sunday!

In preparation for Youth Sunday on May 3rd, the older youth, grades 8-12, will have Sunday School every 1st and 2nd Sunday to plan Youth Sunday. Youth grades K-7th are invited to join these planning classes on the second Sunday of each month, as they will have standard Sunday School on the first Sunday of each month.



Easter Cookie Sales & Decorating

The youth will be decorating and selling Easter cookies this year. Join us weekly during the month of March after each church service in the Narthex to take Easter cookie orders.

Then on April 4th at 10 am all youth are invited to decorate the Easter cookies at Ivy Chapel. The Youth will help distribute orders on Easter Sunday after enjoying a cookie and coffee hour with extras!

Youth Overnight Lock-In

The Youth Overnight Lock-In has been rescheduled.
Mark your calendars for the new date!

Fri. Mar. 27– Sat. Mar. 28th, from 6pm to 10 am.

Find out what it's like to spend the night at Ivy Chapel!



There will be food, there will be movies, there will be shenanigans! Dinner and breakfast will be provided, but please be sure to bring a sleeping bag, blanket, and pillow, as everyone will be sleeping on the floor (my old lady back can already imagine what that will be like).

Please let Tara Lowry know if you plan on attending.

Be sure to stay up to date with everything related to Ivy Youth by following us on Instagram and Facebook. All of our activities are also posted on the Youth page of the Ivy website.

If you have any questions regarding any of the youth activities please contact Tara at taralowry96@gmail.com or 314-973-6284.

Happy Birthday to ...



3 Jake Del Carmen
12 Linda Ledbetter
14 Kaillen Cox

15 Katie Amsler
23 Alex Glenn
Deborah Washburn

24 Bruce Wilking
29 Doris De Fer
30 Jack Molyneaux

Serving God's People-March Schedules

Liturgists



1 Mar	Julie McAlister
8 Mar	Kathryn Kuntzman
15 Mar	Youth
22 Mar	JoAnn Moody
29 Mar	Linda Lowry

Greeter/Ushers



1 Mar	Kathryn Kuntzman and Frank Purviance communion preparer Jan Wirtz
8 Mar	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
15 Mar	Kay and Earl Kreder
22 Mar	Julie McAlister and Dave Mentzel
29 Mar	Frank Purviance and John Weiland
3 Apr	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele
5 Apr	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux

CARE CORPS



➤ MAR — Linda Lowry 314-703-2776—LEADER
Pat Winship 636-394-5991

➤ APR Julie Mc Allister 314-576-4946—LEADER
Jan Wirtz 314-740-7385

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 or 314-591-0057 as well as the office. **THANK YOU!**

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
 <h1 style="font-size: 4em; color: green;">March</h1> 2026						
1 2nd S in Lent prpl 10am Worship/  HWY CLEAN-UP AFTER WORSHIP Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	2 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	3 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm Deacons-7pm Zoom	4 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	5 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	6	7 AA 10:30am #350
8 3rd S in Lent prpl Daylight Svg Time Begins 10am Worship Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR 	9 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Council Mtg 7pm	10 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm	11 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	12 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	13 The Ivy Vine Articles DUE Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	14 AA 10:30am #350
15 4th S in Lent prpl 10am Worship Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	16 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	17 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm  Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	18 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Men's Luncheon 11:30am Stackhouse 13419 Olive Blvd	19 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	20	21 AA 10:30am #350
22 5th S in Lent prpl 10am Worship Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	23 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	24 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm	25 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	26 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm	27 <div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Overnight Youth Lock-in 6pm — 10am </div>	28 AA 10:30am #350
29 Palm Sunday red 10am Worship Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm Y 	30 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	31 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm	April 1 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	April 2 AA (Ladies #744) 9:30-11am TKD 6-7pm Maunder Thursday	April 3 Good Friday Services TBA	April 4 AA 10:30am #350

AHEAD IN APR: 3rd Good Friday services TBA 5th Easter 7th—DEACONS MEETING 7PM VIA ZOOM 13th-Council Meeting 7pm 15th-Men's Luncheon 11:30am 21st-Mary & Martha Meets @ 1pm 25th-Rummage Sale

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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