



# The Ivy Vine

April  
2026



Rev. Dr. Carol Trissell

## Dreaming God's Dream for Ivy Chapel

This week I took a few minutes to look over the “Dreaming God’s Dream” bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. I took a photo of it as I wanted to capture these hopes and dreams shared for the future of Ivy Chapel. Then I took a few minutes to group the various cards. It was consistent with the results of the surveys we completed in February. The most responses were for more people to attend Ivy Chapel; for increased ministry for youth and young families; and for increased connections – through more fellowship opportunities at Ivy Chapel as well as more connections with the local community and the wider faith community.

Initially, I did this to remove the cards and report the results outward to our congregation. Yet, as I reflected on these hopes and dreams, I found I was reluctant to take them down. So, they remain and there is still opportunity for more community members to share. If you are unable to attend in person, please contact the church office so we can add your hopes and dreams.

To be more succinct, our hopes are to increase our ministries and outreach. Our dreams are to connect more often with each other and our community. I believe this reflects the authentic heart of Ivy Chapel – to reach more people and to build deeper relationships. It certainly is in keeping with the mission of Jesus Christ.

Now we have identified our mission going forward into the future, the interim process turns to the Pastoral Search Committee under the leadership of our Moderator, John Weiland. The members of the committee will lead us in the search for our next Settled Pastor. They will seek the person gifted and called to facilitate that mission alongside the community of Ivy Chapel.

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To that end, I invite you to join me in prayer for our Pastoral Search Committee members. I also invite you to join me in praying for the person out there somewhere who God will guide to our church. In the meantime, we continue to be faithful in ministry, focusing our resources even more fully on these identified priorities.

May the One who placed these hopes and dreams in our hearts guide us, guard us, and nourish us! Amen.



# Scripture Worship

- 2 April 2026, 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
- 3 April 2026, Good Friday:** Isaiah 52:13—53:12, Psalm 22, John 18:1—19:42 , Hebrews 10:16-25 and 4:14-16 and 5:7-9
- 5 Apr 2026, Easter Sunday:** Psalm 118:1-2 and 4-24, Matthew 28:1-10
- 12 Apr 2026, Second Sun of Easter:** Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31
- 19 Apr 2026, Third Sun of Easter:** Acts 2:14a; 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4; 12-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35
- 26 Apr 2026, Fourth Sun of Easter:** Acts 2:42-47, John 10:1-10
- 3 May 2026, Fifth Sun of Easter:** Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

All of the scripture we use for worship can be found through this website through the Vanderbilt University library's lectionary collection. [www.lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu](http://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:

Dear Ivy friends,

As you are aware, Ivy Chapel's Intentional Interim Transition Team has conducted surveys of our congregation recently which sought feedback from our congregation on priorities for our church ministries, as well as characteristics of our next Settled Pastor. The results are in, which have been shared through recent KYP and Ivy Vine updates. Thanks to all who responded for your valuable insights.

Our next step in the process is the formation of a Settled Pastor Search Committee. I am pleased to inform you that this committee will consist of six Ivy members who will be meeting with the UCC Missouri Mid-South Conference Associate Conference Minister to discuss the next phase of the search. This will include updating our church profile, which was updated last year during our Intentional Interim Pastor search but needs to be customized for the Settled Pastor search. Once the profile is completed, the Conference Minister will provide guidance on the process for reviewing of candidate profiles, setting up interviews, interview questions, and other organizational matters.

Our goal will be to publish our church profile and position listing with the UCC Missouri Mid-South Conference within the next few months. I will continue to provide regular updates on this as we make progress.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,  
John Weiland  
Moderator, Ivy Chapel UCC

# March Council Lifted Up:



Pastor Carol for facilitating February's Ivy Leadership Team meeting and helping guide us toward the next phase of Ivy Chapel's journey to "Dream God's Dream".



The Interim Transition Team, consisting of: Jim French, Dottie Foster, Tom Glenn, Tara Lowry, Gail Thoele, Valerie Waterman, Jan Wirtz for their service leading Ivy Chapel through this transition period.



Kara White for her commitment to Ivy Chapel and willingness to help in so many ways and with so many tasks!

## Deacons

The Easter Lilies this year were given by:

Dottie Foster

Donna Grote

Kathryn Kuntzman

Steve and Linda Lowry

Mary & Martha Women's Group

Jack & Ann Molyneaux

Jo Ann Moody

Ebello and Norma Pasia

Frank Purviance

Gail Thoele

Valerie Waterman

Ralph and Myrna Weiland

Kara White

Jan Wirtz

## Trustees

Trustee's are continuing to solicit bids to replace the rusted out gutters on Fellowship Hall. They are a unique design and size and it is harder to find contractors who are able to bid the job competitively.

It will take time. An Ivy Spring clean-up is being discussed -stay tuned for more information and dates. Plans are underway for the April Rummage sale with Kara.



# Mary<sup>and</sup>Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on Mar. 17<sup>th</sup> with our meeting started with a devotion by Dottie Foster. Since Sarah Heend is unavailable to speak with us about new books in April, Pastor Carol Trissell will discuss with us her experiences with autism, so we may better understand this condition. Sarah may then be with us in the autumn.

It was decided that an Easter Basket for the Seven Pines Emmaus residents will be assembled before the Good Friday Service at 1:15 p.m. Easter cookies and an Easter Lily will be added on Sunday and delivered that day to them.

The Collection of Twin Sheets for Lydia's House will begin on April 12<sup>th</sup> and end on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. See more information below.

Gail Thoele is working on a schedule for providing coffee hour fellowship workers so we will see how our group fits into the schedule.

After our discussions we adjourned to the kitchen and sorted and cleaned for an hour. Items were saved for the Rummage Sale.

Our next meeting will be on Tues., April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

## Lydia's House Spring Sheet Collection

Lydia's House for Abused Women and Children is in need of twin sheets for their residents. They have 86 residents and all of their beds are twin size except for very young children. We have found these sets for \$8.00 to \$10.00 at Macy's Discount Store at Mid Rivers Mall in St. Peters and at Ollie's on Manchester in Ellisville. You might also try Amazon. We will begin the collection the Sunday after Easter (12<sup>th</sup>) and end it on the last Sunday of April (26<sup>th</sup>) A pack-n-play will be available in the Narthex to drop your sheets.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

for our next church



### BLOOD DRIVE

Ivy Chapel UCC will host an Impact Life Blood Drive **4 to 7:30 pm Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**. Blood Donations are in high demand and **YOUR** blood donation is much needed.

We wanted to make everyone aware of when Ivy will host our next Blood Drive to encourage donors to plan accordingly so that you will be eligible to donate on **May 7<sup>th</sup>**.

**Thank you  
for giving the Gift of Life!**



# News From Around Ivy

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## Spring Directory News

The new directory will be available online on our website starting April 10th. A digital copy will be sent to all parties via email on that day as well. If you would like a printed copy please contact Kara and let her know which size you would like.  
Full page 8x11 or booklet size 5.5x8

# 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](mailto:ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org)

We are only accepting items you can carry yourself for donations.  
**NO LARGE ITEMS PLEASE.**

Starting Wednesday April 8th, we are asking for volunteers to help clean some of the items the church is donating so they can look their best! It is mostly nursery items that we do not have a need for right now. Please contact Kara for more information.



# 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!**

We are continuing to prepare for Youth Sunday on May 3rd of this year. Join us for planning sessions during Sunday school in April and we look forward to seeing you in May to help us celebrate Ivy Youth!



## 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 had a fabulous evening at Ivy for the Overnight Lock-in. They played games, did crafts, watched movies, told stories and had an good time!



Special thanks to Linda Lowry, Laura Mignerone, and Tara Lowry for hanging out all night!

## It is time to sign up for Summer Camp at MoVal!



This year's sessions include:

June 21-26—High School Camp (grades 9-12)

June 28-July 2—Family Camp (all ages)

July 5—10—All Ages Camp #1 (grades 3-9)

July 12-17—All Ages Camp#2 (grades 3-9)

July 19-23—Adventures in Community (ages 18+)

For more information please check online at : [missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval](http://missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval)

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](mailto:taralowry96@gmail.com) or 314-973-6284.

# Happy Birthday to ...

- 1 Elizabeth Carr
- 6 Marilyn Gulotta
- 7 Rod Hertenstein
- 10 Kyle Ray & Ashton Burton
- 22 Myrna Weiland
- 30 Donna Grote



# Happy Anniversary to...



- Tom and Debbie Glenn  
4/11/1987
- Jason and Kristine Lowry  
4/26/2008



## Serving God's People-April Schedules

### Liturgists



3 Apr	John Weiland
5 Apr	Jim French
12 Apr	Julie McAllister
19 Apr	Kathryn Kuntzman
26 Apr	Eli Willey
3 May	Jo Ann Moody & Youth

### Greeter/Ushers



3 Apr	Kay and Earl Kreder
5 Apr	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele <b>communion preparer Jan Wirtz</b>
12 Apr	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
19 Apr	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
26 Apr	Kay and Earl Kreder
3 May	Julie McAllister and Dave Mentzel <b>communion preparer Gail Thoele</b>

### CARE CORPS



APR Julie McAllister 314-576-4946—LEADER  
Jan Wirtz 314-740-7385

MAY Kathryn Kuntzman 636-391-8468 —LEADER  
Kay Kreder 314-878-5296

### 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](http://www.ierschool.org)



**RITENOUR CO-CARE FOOD PANTRY**: Place food and personal care items on **2nd SHELF**. [Rccfoodpantry.org](http://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
			<b>1</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>2</b> AA (Ladies #744) 10 am TKD 6-7pm	<b>3</b>  <b>Good Friday Worship 2 pm</b>	<b>4</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>5 Easter</b> wht <b>10am Worship</b> 11am Fellowship  Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	<b>6</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>7</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm  Deacons-7pm Zoom	<b>8</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>9</b> AA (Ladies #744) 10a TKD 6-7pm	<b>10</b>  Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm  FH- JRMCC noon-3	<b>11</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>12 1st S of Easter</b> wht <b>10am Worship</b> 11am Fellowship  Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	<b>13</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm  <b>Council Mtg 7pm</b>	<b>14</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>15</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm  <b>Men's Luncheon 11:30am Harpo's</b>	<b>16</b> AA (Ladies #744) 10a TKD 6-7pm  <b>The Ivy Vine Articles DUE</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> AA 10:30am #350
<b>19 2nd S of Easter</b> wht <b>10am Worship</b> 11am Fellowship  Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	<b>20</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>21</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm  <b>Mary &amp; Martha Wms Grp 1pm</b>	<b>22</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>23</b> AA (Ladies #744) 10 am TKD 6-7pm  Rummage Item Drop off 10a-8p	<b>24</b>  Rummage Item Drop off 10a-8p	<b>25</b> AA 10:30am #350  <b>Rummage Sale 8a-3p</b>
<b>26 3rd S of Easter</b> wht <b>10am Worship</b> 11am Fellowship  Yoga 4-5 AA 6pm YR	<b>27</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>28</b> AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 KD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>29</b> TKD 5:30-6:30pm	<b>30</b> AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm	May 1	May 2 AA 10:30am #350  Work Day

**AHEAD IN MAY: 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Sunday and Hwy Clean-up after worship 5<sup>th</sup> Deacons 7pm 7<sup>TH</sup>—BLOOD DRIVE 4:30-7PM 10<sup>TH</sup>-MOTHER'S DAY 11<sup>TH</sup>- Council Meeting 7pm 19<sup>th</sup>-Mary & Martha Meets @ 1pm 21<sup>st</sup>-Men's Luncheon 11:30am 25<sup>th</sup>-Memorial Day**

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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