



The Ivy Vine

2024

August



Dan Wilson, Pastor
pastordan@ivy-chapel.org

Love and Compassion

Praise God! Our relationships with one another are growing deeper as we gather repeatedly to draw upon the messages of God's Word. Still more wonderful is the growing closeness with Christ Jesus which we are experiencing as we worship, pray and minister together. We are a circle of believers trying, week by week, to discover who God wants us to be.

This past Christmas, my partner Sue gave me the gift of a shirt bearing this message on the front:

BELIEVE
THERE IS
GOOD IN
THE WORLD

Aspiring followers of Christ ponder the message of our Savior Jesus, who teaches, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free!" (John 8:31-32) Additionally, Jesus promises, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to God except through me... Do you not believe that I am in God and God is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but God who lives in me does God's works. Believe me that I am in God and God is in me; but, if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Truly, truly, I say to you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to God. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that God may be glorified in the Son. If, in my name, you ask me for anything, I will do it." (John 14:6, 10-14)

John Greenleaf Whittier, an American Quaker abolitionist, composed the poem "The Brewing of Soma," which was published in The Atlantic (April 1872 Issue). In 1887, Whittier's poem became a hymn text when it was paired with the Tune "REST" composed by Frederick Charles Maker. This combination yielded the Christian hymn entitled "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind." Although this hymn has a blatantly sexist title, many of its lyrics offer a sensitive, poignant message. These are words from concluding stanzas of Whittier's poem:

(Continued on pg. 2)

In simple trust like theirs who heard
Beside the Syrian Sea
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow Thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love!...

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

- "The Brewing of Soma"
(John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872)

Jesus Christ reliably displays **love** and **compassion** toward all. Jesus feels **compassion** for people who are in need of help, and Jesus helps!

The New Testament Koiné Greek word for **compassion** is "splanchnizomai." This word appears a total of 12 times in Matthew, Mark and Luke combined. "Splanchnizomai" defines a visceral, gut-wrenching, emotional response which is so strong that we are physically moved to action. "Splanchnizomai" determines that when we are aware of human need, we respond.

The Gospel of Mark provides us with a beautiful memory of just such an interaction which Christ Jesus had with a diseased leper.

"A leper came to Jesus, begging him, and kneeling down to him, and saying to him, 'If you are willing; you are able to cleanse me.' And being filled with **compassion**, Jesus reached out his hand, and he touched him, and he said to him, 'I am willing. Be cleansed.' And immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed." (Mark 1:40-42)

Both **love** and **compassion** are human emotions. During worship, after the Communion Bread and Cup have been consecrated, clergy sometimes invite the congregation to receive, saying, “The gifts of God for the people of God.” Similar to the Communion Bread and Cup, **compassion** and **love** also are “gifts of God.” There are occasions (many of which we witness in the life of Jesus) when feeling **compassion** “leads to” expressing **love**. Clearly, Jesus Christ feels **compassion** and responds by offering **love**. So may we.

In the year 1989, I was privileged to serve as a Missouri Conference Delegate to the United Church of Christ General Synod XVII. At one of the worship services there, folk singer Martie Swan led the entire General Synod body in singing along with her a song entitled, “*People of Promise*” from her album There Is A Season (1985). I get chills remembering that moment! This lively, encouraging song revs up God’s people and stokes us for a hopeful future! The words of the refrain are:

People of promise, arise and see

There’s a new day a-dawnin’ for you and for me.

For God in Christ Jesus has set us all free!

People of promise, arise!

- “*People of Promise*”

Martie Swan

(UCC General Synod XVII; Fort Worth, Texas; June 29 - July 4, 1989)

Gathering in Jesus’ name and sensing that Jesus is among us invigorates! Truly, it is Christ himself who promises, “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” (Matthew 18:20 NIV) Have you and I not discovered this to be true, my Ivy companions? Yes, we have! You and I continue experiencing this gift of God at Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ and everywhere throughout our lives: Jesus is near.

Because Jesus is near, you and I are “*people of promise!*”

May we spontaneously, joyfully offer God’s gifts of **love** and **compassion** to everyone whom we encounter along the winding path of life.

BE THE GOOD in the world.

Be **love** and **compassion** in God’s world,

Pastor Dan



Scripture Worship

4 Aug 2024, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost:

2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a, Exodus 16:2-4 and 9-15, Psalm 51:1-12, Psalm 78:23-29, Ephesians 4:1-16, John 6:24-35

11 Aug 2024, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost:

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15 and 31-33, 1 Kings 19:4-8, Psalm 130, Psalm 34:1-8, Ephesians 4:25—5:2, John 6:35 and 41-51

18 Aug 2024, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14, Proverbs 9:1-6, Psalm 111, Psalm 34:9-14, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58

23 Aug 2024, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11] 22-30 and 41-43, Joshua 24:1-2a and 14-18, Psalm 84, Psalm 34:15-22, Ephesians 6:10-20, John 6:56-69

1 Sept 2024, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Song of Solomon 2:8-13, Psalm 45:1-2 and 6-9, Psalm 15, Deuteronomy 4:1-2 and 6-9, James 1:17-27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Are you pondering what to read next?

Here are some excellent, contemporary books:

Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love

William Willimon

(Abingdon Press; Nashville, TN; 2016)

Strongmen: How They Rise;

Why They Succeed; How They Fall

Ruth Ben-Ghiat

(Profile Books Ltd.; London, UK; 2021)

Little Pieces of Light...

Darkness and Personal Growth

Joyce Rupp

(Paulist Press; Mahwah, NJ; 1994)

Barefoot on Barbed Wire:

A Journey Out of Fear Into Freedom

Cindy Morgan

(Harvest House Publishers; Eugene, OR; 2001)

Life After Grace

Carol Bechtel

(Westminster John Knox Press; Louisville, KY; 2003)

Our Faith, Our Vote

The United Church of Christ's 'Our Faith, Our Vote' Initiative is our denomination's ongoing commitment to equip everyone with the tools for nonpartisan faithful engagement in our democratic process. The initiative is made up of three main components:

- 1.voter registration
- 2.issue education
- 3.voter empowerment

Scan here for --->
more information.



The 2024 'Our Faith, Our Vote' Initiative asks the church to answer the call of 1 John 3:18: "Let us love, not with words or speech, but with actions and in truth." Vote with love for creation, love for our neighbors both here and abroad, love for a just peace, love for repair and reconciliation of the brokenness of our nation. Encourage your family, friends and community to vote with love. The 2024 election season is underway.

Please scan for this page for updates to learn how
you can "vote with love" this year. --->



Faithful and Respectful Discussions

Our faith provides us with spiritual resources to share in conversations which are faithful and respectful. We can choose to have civic discussions in civil tones. We can choose respect and hope over animosity and bitterness.

Find out more about having faithful and respectful discussions
this election season by scanning here .---->





Blessing of the Animals

Don't forget to be on the lookout for more information about the special animal group we'll be partnering with for this year's Blessing of the Animals. Mark your calendars to join us and bring your feathery, furry, fuzzy, scaled and shelled friends on Sat., Sept. 21 from 1-3pm in the outdoor pavilion.



Be sure to set the date to come get some yummy BBQ that you can eat dine-in or carry out on Sat. Sept 14th.

More information to come so be sure to check the KYP and website for updates & ticket sales to get your burgers, brats and hotdog meals!



There are new flashing signals with a lower speed limit during school arrival and dismissal times now located directly across from the church on Woods Mill Road.

It may be hard to see if they have been activated when you leave the parking lot, so please remember to be cautious and keep your speed to **30 before 9am** and **between 2 and 4 pm** on school days. School officially begins on August 19th but the signals will most likely begin next week.





Mark Your Calendars!

Aug 18th–

Rally Day &

HWY Clean-up after worship

Aug 25th–

Dessert for \$1 after worship

Sep.14th-


Church BBQ Fundraiser

Sep. 21st-

Blessing of the Animals @3pm



A Big Thank You to everyone who helped with the Salad Luncheon and to the very generous offering you gave for it.

We received **\$293.00** which will be split between Isaiah 58 for school supplies and Ivy Chapel's budget. This was much more than expected and we appreciate it! 

Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on July 16th and opened with a Devotion from Jan Wirtz.

We decided to delay the Salad Luncheon by a week due to illnesses and vacations of members. The luncheon will be immediately following worship on July 28th in Fellowship Hall with a free-will offering. Half of the money collected will go to the Christian Action Committee to help purchase School Supplies and half will go to the Ivy Chapel operating budget.

Future plans include Dessert for a Dollar on Aug. 25th following worship, Socializing over Lunch in September, Making Nut Cup favors for Lydia's House's Thanksgiving Dinner in October, and Bringing Treasures from home to share with the group in November.

Trustees

The Memorial Garden received a recent summer refresh!

Plants were pruned and weeds removed. A tulip tree by the building was removed and replanted outside of the Garden!

Ivy was trimmed back from the brick walk for a clear path.

Tree guys removed two branches damaged in a storm from the edge of the parking lot also.

Trash pick-up of Woods Mill Road is scheduled for Sunday, August 18 weather permitting.

Ivy Information

Worship with US!

EVERY SUNDAY:
10am in person and
streamed live on YouTube

The Lord's Supper:
first Sunday of the month



www.ivychapel.org —>

<— [YouTube](#)—



www.facebook.com/IvyChapel—>



Our Support Staff

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

Minister of Music– Mike Waller

Custodian– Alondra Ramirez

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.

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

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING RENTING
SPACE AT IVY CHAPEL**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT 314-434-4991
OR IVYCHAPELUCC@IVYCHAPEL.ORG**

Happy Anniversary to...

Carl and Pat Winship
8/1/1970
Earl and Kay Kreder
8/9/1964



Happy Birthday to ...

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 6 Dottie Foster | 19 Brittany Wolff |
| Michelle Moody | 20 Jim French |
| 8 Gloria Wintrode | Nick Wintrode |
| 12 Kathryn Kuntzman | 23 Sally Dodge |
| 14 Erin Winship | 24 Claire Lowry |
| 15 Earl Kreder | 26 Michael Pfau |
| | 31 Michelle Purviance |

Serving God's People

Liturgists

4 Aug	JoAnn Moody
11 Aug	Jan Wirtz
18 Aug	-----
25 Aug	Sue Wilson
1 Sep	Pat Winship

Aug Schedules

Greeter/Ushers

4 Aug	Diann and Jim Sheahan communion server Gail Thoele
11 Aug	Donna Grote and Jan Wirtz
18 Aug	Kay and Earl Kreder
25 Aug	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
1 Sep	Don Wolff and John Weiland communion server Sue Wilson

CARE CORPS

- AUG — Kathryn Kuntzman 636-391-8468
- SEP — Dottie Foster 314-878-4286

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 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
				1 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm	2	3 AA 10:30am #350
4 11th S aft Pentecost 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) 10am TKD 6-7pm Office Closed	9 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	10 AA 10:30am #350
11 12th S aft Pentecost 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 Office Closed	14 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	15 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm The Ivy Vine Articles DUE	16	17 AA 10:30am #350
18 13th S aft Pentecost grn RALLY DAY 10am Worship HWY CLEAN-UP AFTER 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- Mimi's Cafe	22 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm Office Closed	23 Office Closed	24 AA 10:30am #350
25 14th S aft Pentecost grn 10am Worship Dessert for \$1 AA 6pm YR	26 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	27 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Office Closed	28 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	29 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm	30	31 AA 10:30am #350

AHEAD IN SEPT: 2ND- LABOR DAY-OFFICE CLOSED 9TH-Council Meeting 14th-Church BBQ 4-7pm 17th- Mary & Martha Women's Grp 18th Men's Lunch 11:30am @ Chimi's 21st-Blessing of the Animals 1-3pm

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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