



The Ivy Vine

2024

November

Love Is Greater



Dan Wilson, Pastor
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The month of November is a time of beauty and transition. Here in the Northern Hemisphere we are shifting toward winter as tree leaves fall and daylight hours dwindle. November is a pivotal portion of the autumn season when plants die, and when God's creation goes through big changes. This is also the month when we celebrate a national Day of Thanksgiving!

The Apostle Paul writes, "Let your gentleness be known to everyone. God is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:5-7) As people of God, we give God thanks and praise for all of our blessings!

The theme of our UCC Missouri Mid-South Conference Annual Gathering (MMS CAG) on October 18 and 19 was "**LOVE Is Greater Than Fear.**" This was a very timely, apropos theme. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8) In this country, the month of November this year will include a highly contentious national election. Many concerns and fears are currently being experienced in connection with the impending November 5th election. It sounds great to say, "Do not worry about anything." But it's not so easy, is it? In this regard, MMS CAG was reassuring and comforting. No, the gathering did not allay all of our worries and fears. However, our time together as a Christian community did provide strength of soul.

One of our worship songs on Saturday, October 19 was "Love Is Greater Than Fear" composed by Rev. Monty Jackson, Pastor of Kindred United Church of Christ in Maplewood. Lyrics to this stirring song include, "*There is no fear in Love. Love is enough, more than enough. Whether fight or flight or faint, you won't go under. You will recover. Love dispels all fears. Dries away all tears. Love, O Love, is greater than fear. When we face our fears, it all becomes so clear. Love, O Love, is greater than fear.*" (Rev. Monty Jackson)

The foundation for Monty's song is the First Letter of John 4:16-19: "God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God, and God remains in them. Love has been perfected among us..., because as God is, so are we in this world. **There is no fear in love**, but perfect love casts out all fear... We love, because God first loved us." This Scripture also served as the basis of

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Rev. Michael Neuroth's sermon during that day's closing worship. As it was unfolding, that recent conference experience brought to mind the 2016 book Fear of the Other written by Rev. Will Willimon, Duke University Divinity School. Willimon's book also is based on 1 John 4.

Not long ago, I came across a wonderful children's picture book, written by Cynthia Rylant and illustrated by Jill Kastner. Here is a portion of the story, *"In November, the earth is growing quiet. It is making its bed, a winter bed for flowers and small creatures. The bed is white and silent, and much life can hide beneath its blankets. In November, the trees are standing all sticks and bones. Without their leaves, how lovely they are, spreading their arms like dancers. They know it is time to be still... In November, animals sleep more. The air is chilly and they shiver... In November the smell of food is different. It is an orange smell. A squash and pumpkin smell. It tastes like cinnamon and can fill up a house in the morning, can pull everyone from bed in a fog. Food is better in November than any other time of year. In November, people are good to each other. They carry pies to each other's homes and talk by crackling woodstoves, sipping mellow cider. They travel very far on a special November day just to share a meal with one another and to give thanks for their many blessings - for the food on their table and the babies in their arms... In November, at winter's gate, the stars are brittle. The Sun is a sometime friend. And the world has tucked her children in, with a kiss on their heads, till spring."* (Cynthia Rylant, In November, Harcourt, Inc., 2008) Be still, and know that the God of November is our refuge. I love this kids' book, and I love autumn!

One of the distinctive elements of décor which goes along with Thanksgiving Day is the cornucopia. The imagery of a cornucopia - a "horn of plenty" - is an amazing imagery! The traditional Thanksgiving cornucopia is overflowing with plentiful fruit of the harvest! Indeed, Christ Jesus proclaims, "I have come, so that all may have life, and life abundant." (John 10:10) God's gifts and blessings truly are abundant!

In November and always, may our love for God and for one another overflow! Our Risen Savior Jesus is summoning us to lead lives of thanksgiving. As we move through autumn, and as we move through this November, and as we move into the future; may we faithfully rely on God for guidance. Christ Jesus takes grace and giving to a whole new level. (Matthew 5:38-48) Fearlessly follow Christ, and your life will be a source of thanksgiving for all of your neighbors.

Give thanks to God and praise God each day,

Pastor Dan



"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble... Be still, and know that I am God. I am exalted among the nations. I am exalted in all the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge." (Psalm 46:1, 10-11)

God promises, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (1 Corinthians 12:9)

October Council Lifted Up:

- Don Wolff and Gary Lindhorst for putting the speakers up on the wall in the sanctuary.
- Gail Thoele for her continued efforts scheduling ushers, liturgists and communion preparers.
- Linda Lowry for taking September Council Meeting minutes in Jo Ann's absence.
- Jo Ann Moody for the Stewardship message at the October 13th worship service.
- Dave Mentzel for power washing the Church Pavilion in advance of the Blessing of the Animals.
- Christian Action and Deacons who co-sponsored the September 21st Blessing of the Animals, specifically: Jim French, Kathryn Kuntzman, Julie McAllister, Gail Thoele, Sue Wilson
- Volunteers who helped with September's BBQ fundraiser including: Dottie Foster, Kay Kreder, Earl Kreder, Kathryn Kuntzman, Jack Molyneaux, Gail Thoele, Pat Winship, Carl Winship, John Weiland, Sue Wilson, Don Wolff.

Mary and Martha Wmns Grp

The Mary and Martha Women's Group met on Oct. 15th. Following a devotion with Linda Lowry, we made 90 decorative nut/candy cups to give to Lydia's House for their annual Communal Thanksgiving Dinner.

On Nov. 19th we will meet again at 1 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room and bring a personal treasure to share with the group and explain its meaning for us.
All are welcome!

Trustees

This month the Trustees were again active. Inside, two speakers were mounted on the Sanctuary walls.

Outside, leaf removal began and will become a priority as we move into the cooler months. Water hoses will be drained and stored.

The final trash pickup along Woods Mill Road of 2024 is scheduled for Sunday, November 3, weather permitting.

Scripture ^{to} Worship

3 Nov 2024, Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost: Ruth 1:1-18, Deuteronomy 6:1-9, Psalm 146, Psalm 119:1-8, Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34

10 Nov 2024, Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, 1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 127, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

17 Nov 2024, Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost: 1 Samuel 1:4-20, Daniel 12:1-3, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Psalm 16, Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

24 Nov 2024, Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost: 2 Samuel 23:1-7, Daniel 7:9-10 and 13-14, Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18], Psalm 93, Revelation 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37

1 Dec 2024, First Sunday of Advent: Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

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

Looking Ahead....

Tri-Family Thanksgiving Celebration

St. John's UCC (15370 Olive Blvd Chesterfield MO 63017) will be hosting a Thanksgiving Lunch for St. John's, St. Thomas and Ivy Chapel. Instead of gathering for a traditional service, we will gather around the table to break bread with one another just like the first Thanksgiving. Please sign up so we will have plenty of turkey and to bring your favorite Thanksgiving side or dessert to share. Please RSVP by clicking on this link— [Tri-Family Thanksgiving](#). For more information contact Katie Wilsdorf 636-532-0520

We hope you'll join us on Sunday, Nov.24th at noon for this wonderful event and opportunity to fellowship together and give thanks this year.

HELP STOCK THE PANTRIES!

The holidays are coming and the clients at Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58 would like to provide tasty treats for their families.

As you select items for the pantries consider donating flour, sugar, shortening, oil and other ingredients for holiday baking.



Everything is greatly appreciated.

ImpactLife

Reserve your time
NOW!

Ivy Chapel will be hosting
a Blood Drive on
Thursday Nov. 7th
from 4-7:30.

[Sign up by clicking here](#)
[Ivy Chapel Blood Drive](#)

For more information please contact
Sue Wilson at 314-324-3765.

**Give Blood
Save a Life!**

Behold, a New Sanctuary Banner!

Glory be to God for Ivy Chapel UCC's new sanctuary banner which currently is on the side wall above the choir loft! This exquisite banner is given in loving memory of **Judy Hertenstein** by her husband Rod Hertenstein. The banner's beautiful design features three sacred symbols of our faith: Christ's Cross, Christ's Crown, and a blossoming Easter lily.

Praise God for this magnificent, meaningful gift!



Thank you to everyone for the donations of candy for Every Child's Hope. The children were able to enjoy a very bountiful Trunk or Treat! Please see the lovely thank you note on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board!

Soon we will be starting our Christmas drive for ECH. More information to come.

CHRISTIAN ACTION

This holiday season Ivy Chapel is again participating in the "Buy A Bird" program through Isaiah 58 Ministries. Grocery gift cards are purchased and given to families so that they may buy food that makes their holiday meals special. This year they anticipate serving **over 300 families** by this program at **BOTH Thanksgiving and Christmas.**

Your monetary gifts can be left in the collection plate or sent to church by Nov. 3rd. Thank you for helping to provide a festive meal for so many families. Online donations will be accepted through November for this special cause through the link below.

To donate online scan here →



For general Isaiah58 information scan here →



Our Faith, Our Voice, Our Vote

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.

For people of faith, public policy is never merely politics.

It is a way of living out the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves.

It is fitting for local congregations and church structures across the country to develop nonpartisan programs to help the faith community reflect upon the political order.

United Church of Christ Presidents Unite in Video Message

Together, past and present UCC General Ministers and Presidents (Rev. Paul H. Sherry; Rev. John H. Thomas; Rev. Geoffrey A. Black; Rev. John C. Dorhauer; Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson) have joined with one another to create an excellent video calling on each of us to **"VOTE FAITHFULLY and VOTE with LOVE."** In this newly released video, these UCC leaders call on each of us "... to exercise your civil right to vote, and to do so faithfully with love... Doing justice is an act of love. Casting your vote is an act of love... Former President Jimmy Carter, drawing on his own faith, once said that leadership requires *'truthfulness, competence and compassion,'*" says Rev. Paul Sherry, Former UCC President (1989-1999).

Friends in Christ, I encourage you to view this video [by clicking this link](#).

May the message of this video move us to VOTE on November 5th. Vote for democracy. Vote for candidates who clearly display truthfulness, competence and compassion.

"Our faith moves us to cast our vote, which has the power to create a just world for all," Rev. John Thomas, Former UCC General Minister and President (1999-2009).

May this remarkable video guide our decisions. The video concludes with a shared statement from all 5 UCC General Ministers and Presidents: **"When you go to the polls this November; Vote Faithfully; Vote with Love; Vote; Vote; Vote with Love."**

Invitation to Vote from the United Church of Christ

Our UCC denomination is encouraging everyone to **VOTE with LOVE** in our nation's upcoming national election on Tuesday, November 5th. For more details, [please visit this link](#).

Our Faith, Our Voice, Our Vote!

"Fight for the things you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."
- Ruth Bader Ginsberg

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](https://www.youtube.com)—

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**

WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS



Happy Birthday to ...

Happy Anniversary to... 

5 Alicia Carr
6 Erin Bowman
10 Matthew Amsler
11 Brenda Otterson
12 Shannon Farrell & Ralph Weiland

13 Norma Pasia
19 Julie Mc Allister
20 Jennifer Wintrode & Thom Kuntzman
22 Jackson McNeal



Bill and Jan Wirtz
11/12/1983
Stephen and Linda Lowry
11/24/1979
Valerie Waterman and John Parsons
11/26/2005

Serving God's People-NOV Schedules

Liturgists

3 Nov	Jan Wirtz
10 Nov	Sue Wilson
17 Nov	-----
24 Nov	Pat Winship

Greeter/Ushers

3 Nov	Dottie Foster and Gail Thoele communion preparer Donna Grote
10 Nov	Don Wolff and John Weiland
17 Nov	Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux
24 Nov	Myrna and Ralph Weiland
1 Dec	Pat and Carl Winship communion preparer Gail Thoele

CARE CORPS

- NOV — Ann Molyneaux 314-878-0966
- DEC — Debbie Glenn 314-954-2286 and Evelyn Stecher 636-536-6542

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	
						1 	2 AA 10:30am #350
3 24th S aft Pentecost grn Daylight Svc Time Ends TOTENFEST SUNDAY 10am Worship/LS HWY CLEAN-UP AFTER WORSHIP	4 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	5 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Election Day	6 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	7 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm BLOOD DRIVE 4-7	8 Square dancing 3:30-5:30pm 7-9pm	9 AA 10:30am #350	
10 25th S aft Pentecost grn 10am Worship	11 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Council Mtg 7pm	12 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Deacons-7pm Zoom	13 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	14 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm	15 The Ivy Vine Articles DUE	16 AA 10:30am #350	
17 26th S aft Pentecost grn 10am Worship	18 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	19 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349 Mary & Martha Wms Grp 1pm	20 TKD 5:30-6:30pm Men's Luncheon 11:30am- Spiro's 1054 N Woods Mill Rd	21 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm	22	23 AA 10:30am #350	
24 Reign of Christ wht 10am Worship 12 Noon Christ's Thanksgiving Table St. John's UCC - Chesterfield	25 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	26 AAS.O.S. 10-11am AA 12pm #349	27 TKD 5:30-6:30pm	28 AA (Ladies #744) 10am TKD 6-7pm Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	29	30 AA 10:30am #350 Hanging of the Greens Prep	
Office Closed– Kara on Holiday							

AHEAD IN DEC: 1st–Hanging of the Greens **9th**–Council Meeting
17th–Mary & Martha Women's Grp **18th**–Men's Lunch 11:30am @ HuHot Mongolian Grill
24th– Christmas Eve **25th**– Christmas Day **31st**– New Years Eve

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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