

Feb. 2, 2025

# Ivy Chapel UCC



**Ivy Chapel UCC Welcomes You!**  
If you are unable to join us in person  
for Sunday worship, find us on  
You Tube as [Ivy Chapel UCC](#)

First Sunday of the month Communion is offered.

e-KYP — Keeping You Posted

Find out more about us by visiting our website or following us on Facebook:

[www.ivychapel.org](http://www.ivychapel.org) / [www.facebook.com/IvyChapel](https://www.facebook.com/IvyChapel)

Deacons appreciate everyone's cooperation in maintaining a safe and welcoming worship environment. We ask that everyone continue to respect those with compromised immune systems and take precautions as needed.

**2 Feb 2025, Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany:** Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6 1,  
Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30

## Shining in the Shadows A meditation by Kenneth L. Samuel

*John saw Jesus and said, "He is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me. I did not recognize him as the Messiah, but I have been baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel.'" - John 1:30-31 (NLT)*

Ego. So much energy, pride, reputation, and identity packed into that three-letter word.

Not much that we do in life escapes the pervasive consideration of how it will affect our persona. Having learned well that "playing small does not serve the world," we practice humility with guarded caution. No one who knows their value ever wants to be overlooked or denied the recognition they've earned.

Yet, here is John the Baptist, the prolific first-century prophet of Israel, using all his personal and spiritual cachet to promote the significance of an upstart Nazarene rabbi with sketchy credentials. In turning the spotlight away from himself toward Jesus, John the Baptist was practicing much more than guarded humility. John was signaling that his own greatness could only be realized by his diminishment in the presence of one greater than himself.

Every healthy ego knows when to bow before virtues that are more worthy and more enduring than itself. When strong personalities surrender their demands in service of family cohesion, families survive. When political officials sacrifice personal aggrandizement for public service, democracy is renewed. When outstanding athletes keep their prominence in check to recognize the prowess of their teammates, championships are won.

John the Baptist surrendered his greatness to Jesus; Jesus surrendered his greatness to Love; and Love surrenders all without ever losing its own awesome value.

### Prayer

Lord, use my greatness in service of that which is greater than me. Amen.

**9 Feb 2025, Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany:** Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13],

Psalm 138, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11

Ivy Chapel extends a warm welcome to the Rev. Dr. Carol Trissell who will be leading our worship on Feb 2nd and 9th and for the month of March!

Please see the introduction from her below.



Greetings! My name is Rev. Dr. Carol Trissell. I will be worshipping with you on February 2 and 9 and every Sunday in March. Currently, I serve as an UCC endorsed chaplain at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital. Prior to working 10 years as a chaplain, I served 20 years as a pastor at 4 different congregations in Florida, Kansas, and Missouri.

Epiphany UCC in Benton Park is my church home. Ivy Chapel and Epiphany have a long history of ministry together in Joint Neighborhood Ministries and food distribution service. I look forward to meeting you and providing pulpit supply for your congregation in this time of transition.

Blessings and peace,  
Carol

### Pastoral Care

Starting Feb.1st, if you or anyone you know is in need of Pastoral Care please contact our office administrator, Kara White at 314-409-2832 who will inform our Ivy Chapel Care Corp.

If you have any questions please contact the office at 314-434-4991 or [ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org](mailto:ivychapelucc@ivychapel.org).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



2<sup>nd</sup> - Isabella Del Carmen 3<sup>rd</sup> - Carol Faust  
Gregory Scott



### GREETER/USHER

2 Feb — Don Wolff and John Weiland  
communion preparer **Gail Thoele**  
9 Feb — Kathryn Kuntzman and Jack Molyneaux

### LITURGIST

2 Feb — Pat Winship  
9 Feb — John Weiland



### CARE CORPS

➤ FEB — Gail Thoele 314-576-0091  
➤ MAR — Linda Lowry 314-703-2776



➤ **Men's luncheon Feb 19 The Country Club 288 Lamp & Lantern, Town & Country**

➤ OUTSIDE GROUPS: JUNIPER ROOT WOODLAND MICROSCHOOL M-F; SQUARE DANCING 2ND F; TKD M/W/TH;  
AA MEETINGS TUE & SAT, WOMEN'S TUE/THUR, YOUNG PEOPLE'S- SUN