Hello, Goodbye

You say goodbye and I say hello
Hello hello
I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello
Hello hello
I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello
We all have a place at Parkway!

in the Sanctuary...in the Classroom...at the Table...in the Community...in our Ministry
No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey you are welcome at Parkway! As an open and affirming (ONA) and inclusive congregation we extend an extravagant welcome to you to come just as you are and enter into freedom. Feel peace. Celebrate joy. Find hope. Discover purpose. Encounter God. Children and youth will find fun and educational activities. Your faith and intellect will be stimulated in our adult education offerings. You will experience a profound worship service and you will know the sense of belonging to a vibrant faith community. Join us on our journey to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with the God who is still speaking.

Contributors
Kevin Cameron
Bill Haack
Mona Smith Herberg
Barb Kuhlmann
Karen Boyd
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Joyce Ruiz
Lisa Mason
Paul Roesler
Gloria Wandless
Peggy Mohl
Marilyn McDougall
Dan Connors
Andrea Barnes
Carol Cobb

New ideas can quickly become traditions that are hard to give up, but, of course, we know that letting go allows the next new ideas to emerge. ~Lisa Mason

Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.
~Dr. Seuss. Discovered by Carol Russell, submitted by Paul Roesler

Without change the status quo has no meaning. ~Gloria Wandless

Staff
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Vision Statement
We shall seek the way of God in today’s world through
• Joyful Worshipping
• Inclusive Caring
• Compassionate Serving

Mission Statement
Parkway United Church of Christ seeks within the church universal to respond faithfully to the promises of God as witnessed in the Old Testament and New Testament. We seek to follow the way of the crucified and risen Christ. Therefore, we will worship God, educate and nurture persons for discipleship, build a caring Christian community, participate in God’s mission to the world, be stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. May all that we are and do be to God’s Glory.

Congregational Statement
Parkway United Church of Christ, with God’s grace, seeks to be a congregation that includes all persons, regardless of race, ethnic, or socioeconomic background while respecting differences of gender, marital status, age, sexual orientation, and mental and physical ability. We aspire to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our open and affirming congregation.

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From the Pastor

Going Out and Coming In

Kevin Cameron

Who will go out and come in before them, and who will lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of the LORD will not be like sheep which have no shepherd. - Numbers 27:17

Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. - Deuteronomy 28:6

But I know your sitting down, and your going out and your coming in. - 2 Kings 19:27

The Lord will guard your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever. - Psalm 121:8

I am the door; if anyone enters through me, she will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. - John 10:9

If we are paying attention, I believe that Hello and Goodbye are “thin moments.”* These transition times can be so impactful—if we allow them to be. Imagine how you would savor the goodbye if you had known it was the final time you would spend the day with that friend or hold the hand of your parent or look into the eyes of your child. How would you be fully present if you knew you were meeting your mentor or your best bud or spouse for the first time? Often we aren’t even aware that a significant Hello or Goodbye is happening. Therefore, we would be wise to live fully in each moment and be open to the potential of each interaction with loved ones—and strangers too.

I can close my eyes and recall some moments that were so memorable and meaningful—whether I knew it or not at the time:

Meeting Carmen at the Faculty Club of Brandeis University where we were to work together and develop our friendship.

Saying goodbye to Nana Petzoldt.

The five of us meeting 8 month old Dexter at his foster family’s home—the Koalas!

4 year old Tavis clinging to us in the PUCC Gathering Space because he was beginning to understand that we were not going back to Kansas City.

Leaving first grader Iris at The St Louis Language Immersion School where the adults were only going to speak Spanish.

Maya crying and crying at 5th grade graduation hugging the specialist she had every day for six years.

Funerals for church members.

Meeting best friend John in line for lunch at Church Camp.

What are some of your moments? Did the Holy Spirit whisper or shout to you of the significance at the time and/or later?

Live and love with intentionality!

*“thin moments” as defined by Paul MacCormack (Turfnet.com)

The term thin moment comes from a small island off the western coast of Scotland called Iona. This place has been long revered as a sacred place, and is only one of many geographical locations or thin places in the world, where people more easily experience thin moments.

Contemporary poet Sharlande Sledge gives this description:

Thin places, the Celts call this space, Both seen and unseen, Where the door between the world And the next is cracked open for a moment And the light is not all on the other side.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore. ~Psalm 121:8

If you’re always looking in your rear view mirror, you won’t be able to see all the things that are still ahead of you. ~ Peggy Mohl

Saying goodbye to something we enjoy or rely upon reminds us to find fresh, new ways to incorporate the best aspects into our lives. ~ Lisa Mason

Don’t cry because it is over, smile because you tried and succeeded. ~ Anonymous quote paraphrased by Marilyn McDougall

Why can’t we get all the people together in the world that we really like and then just stay together? I guess that wouldn’t work. Someone would leave. Someone always leaves. Then we would have to say good-bye. I hate good-byes. I know what I need. I need more hellos. ~ Charles M. Schulz; submitted by Dan Connors

To this very day, whenever I am out in the country, far away from the city lights, I look at the stars and literally jump for joy because I, once again, feel the love, safety and protection of my Grandpa Tom. And the best feeling of all is knowing that as a little girl I mattered to someone. ~ Andrea Barnes

The story of life is quicker than the wink of an eye, the story of love is hello and goodbye...until we meet again. ~ Jimi Hendrix; submitted by Dan Connors

All endings are also beginnings. We just don’t know it at the time. ~ Mitch Albom, The Five People You Meet In Heaven; submitted by Dan Connors

IN THIS HOUSE, WE BELIEVE:
BLACK LIVES MATTER
WOMEN’S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS
NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL
SCIENCE IS REAL
LOVE IS LOVE
KINDNESS IS EVERYTHING

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### March Worship

**March 1 | 7:00pm | Ash Wednesday**

**Scripture** Joel 2, selected verses; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**Message** Blow the Trumpet; Sing Our Song; Change Your Heart

**Theme** The call to intentionality in Lent—how are we disciples now? What are our songs—lyrics, tunes, theology? How does the music change our hearts?

**March 5 | 9:30am & 11:00am | Lent One | Communion | Give-a-Meal**

**Scripture** Psalm 32; Matthew 4:1-11

**Message** Great is Thy Faithfulness

**Theme** God instructing us and leading us in the ways to go (Psalm); Jesus tempted to show power, authority, miracle (Gospel); How do we realize our limitations and use our abilities wisely?

**March 12 | 9:30am & 11:00am | Lent Two**

**Scripture** Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:13-17

**Message** If You But Trust in God to Guide You

**Theme** Abraham (Abram) and Sarah (Sarai) told by God to leave everything and go… took great courage to trust and venture forth into the unknown. What is it like to trust God with your going out and your coming in?

**March 19 | 9:30am & 11:00am | Lent Three**

**Scripture** Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-42

**Message** You Who Are Thirsty

**Theme** Israelites thirsty—complaining; Samaritan woman at the well needs water. Knowing what we need and asking for it. Self-assessment and self-awareness…knowing ourselves…what is your unique thirst?

**March 26 | 9:30 & 11:00am | Lent Four**

**Scripture** Psalm 23; John 9:1-41

**Message** Nada de Turbe

**Theme** Jesus advocates for the man born blind and his parents as he is questioned by the disciples, neighbors and Pharisees. The parents advocate for their son and he advocates for Jesus. Who advocates for you and whom do you speak up for?

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**Opportunities to Pray**

**Prayer Corner**
Fri, Mar 24 | 1:00-3:00pm | Sanctuary
Pastor Kevin is available to pray with you during this time. The Prayer Corner—with a perpetual candle—has a current prayer list, prayer books, journal, kneeler and chairs.

**Labyrinth**
Wed, Mar 22 | 11:am
Meet in Pastor Kevin’s Office
Pray in motion with us as we walk the labyrinth at the Mercy Center at 2039 Geyer Road—just a hop, skip and a jump from church.

**Centering Prayer**
Join us first & third Thursdays 6:45pm in Pastor Kevin’s office for silent prayer.
Contact Tom Maxeiner: 314-692-7391
tom.maxeiner@charter.net

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**Feed Your Spirit**

Feed your spirit with the Still Speaking Daily Devotional:
ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional
Adult Education March 2016

Sundays | 9:30 & 11:00am | Heritage Room

March 5: Sermon Talk Back
Have you ever wanted to shout out, disagree, ask a question or demand a real life example in the middle of a sermon? Here’s your chance to talk through what you might say (9:30am session prior to 11:00am Informal Worship) or wish you had said (11:00am session after 9:30am Traditional Worship). Bring your worship bulletin and pick up a sermon outline/notes in the Heritage Room. Engage in dialogue with other adults and then plan to follow-up with Kevin via email, phone or visit.

March 12: Progress West Hospital—Steffanie Rauscher
Having recently joined the team at Progress West Hospital in O’Fallon as Director of Nursing, PUCPer Steffanie Rauscher has been a nurse for many moons. Come hear about the mission and realities of a hospital from her unique angle. You may never look at a hospital in the same away again.

March 19: Spring Break—no Adult Education session today. Why not walk the Labyrinth at the nearby Mercy Center, Shaare Emeth or Missouri Baptist Hospital (just outside the basement doors at church)?

March 26: PUCC Faith Journey—Greg Schmelig
Come listen to Greg and feel the Spirit as he shares his faith with us. While PUCC is in Greg’s bones from his great-grandparents, he officially became a member less than two years ago when he said—“I am dad to three (almost) grown daughters. I like going to or watching Cardinals’ baseball, playing cards with my buddies and playing the piano. I have an English bulldog, Brody, who is my best bud. Some other favorites include cooking, dining out and attending the St. Louis Symphony during the winters. My favorite hymn is actually from the Catholic tradition: Shepherd Me, O God. My favorite Bible verse is Job 19: 25-26.”

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:00-8:30pm
Heritage Room | Potluck & Discussion

March 14 and 28 we start a new book focused on “sustainability”—The Comforting Whirlwind by Bill McKibben.

In The Comforting Whirlwind, McKibben turns to the biblical book of Job to demonstrate our need to embrace a bold new paradigm for living if we hope to reverse the current trend of ecological destruction. Arguing that we are entrapped by “our belief that endless material growth and expansion is both possible and fulfilling,” McKibben asks, “How can one believe deeply in God and yet be so cavalier about God’s creation?” An environmentalist, Sunday school teacher, and the author of The End of Nature and The Age of Missing Information, McKibben uses the biblical story of Job to articulate modern assumptions that hide us from the larger perspective of God’s grand and glorious creation. In the process, he comments on the modern sins of consumerism, overreliance on automobiles, overpopulation, and placing ourselves at the center. His illustrations of how we are creating a “managed world” that will be “even less hospitable to our religious message than the current one” are wide-ranging.

Tuesday Evening Dialogue (TED)
Men, Women, Couples, Singles. ALL WELCOME!

Contact Karen Boyd:
kkseib@gmail.com | 314-878-1002

Youth Night

Wednesdays | 6:30-7:30 | Fellowship Hall | Snacks & Door Prize

Please join us for a night of fun and bring a friend along!

Contact Barb Kuhlmann:
barbk@parkwayucc.org | 314-872-9330

March 1, Ash Wednesday
Join us for Ash Wednesday worship at 7:00pm.

March 8, Super Hero
Who would you like to be? There will be plenty of materials to become that super hero you have been dreaming to be.

March 15, Spring Break
March 22, Art Attack
Explore, create, and find the artist in you! There could even be a paint throwing contest!

March 29, Backwards Night
Everything will be turned around, upside down.

Contact Karen Boyd:
kkseib@gmail.com | 314-878-1002
Coffee & Conversation

Wed, Mar 29 | 10:00am | St Louis Bread Co
Located at Manchester & 270. Join us for lively discussion and warm fellowship! Contact Kevin: kevin@parkwayucc.org 314-878-9330

Friendship Dinners
This Spring | Sign up in the Gathering Space

Friendship Dinner Time
Enjoy a gourmet meal and a wonderful social evening with Parkway folks. Sign up in the Gathering Space for the Fun Filled Friendship Dinners to be held in March. Make new friends, greet old friends and share an evening of fellowship with other Parkway Members. We welcome those who would like to host and you will only be in charge of beverages and the main dish. Everyone else brings just one dish. When 6 or 8 people gather together it makes for a delicious meal. The hostess will call you and pick an agreeable date for all in her group. It’s simple, inexpensive and a fun way to spend a beautiful March evening. Sign up today in the Gathering Space or contact Joyce Ruiz: joyceruiz7@gmail.com | 314-494-8979.

A Place at the Table...

A Place in our Ministry...

Save the Date June 4, 2017: PUCC Annual Meeting
Intergenerational Worship Service—celebrating 47 years of PUNS!
PUNS Party & Lunch

Sunday, June 4, 10am Annual Meeting | 10:45am One Family Worship | 11:45am PUNS Party and Lunch in the Fellowship Hall

Annual Meeting
Parkway UCC will be holding the Annual Meeting at 10:00am to vote and install the new Council and Commission members for the coming church year. The Annual Report will be available at the end of May. A quorum will be needed for the vote.

Intergenerational Worship
We will then transition into an intergenerational worship service in which we will give thanks for the 47 years of Parkway United Nursery School (PUNS). Former students, directors, teachers, and parents will be invited as well as current staff! Though an emotional time for many, we want to spotlight the successes and important impact PUNS has had with so many children of our church and the community.

Please join us for this congregational meeting, worship service and lunch to follow at 11:45am.

If anyone has memories of their time with PUNS (student, parent, grandparent, teacher, Board member) and would be willing to share them, please contact Carol Cobb ccjcobb@aol.com or (314) 965-4147 from the Church Council.
A Place in our Community...

Sustainability Seekers & Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is sponsoring a talk called Fracking 101

Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 7:30-9:00 in the Heritage Room

Fracking is the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc., so as to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas. Fracking has made the USA an exporter of oil and gas after years of having to import it and has brought down the domestic price of oil. However, research is showing that it has a poor environmental impact. Environmentalists say potentially carcinogenic chemicals used may escape and contaminate groundwater and the air around the fracking site. Fracking is causing earth tremors. Our speaker, Connie Gray, will share her experiences living near fracking sites and the impact on her family.

Contact Joan Brannigan for more information: 314-997-7698 | joan@mac.com

The Interfaith Partnership of Greater St Louis is bringing people together again!

The Cave Project

The Cave is a compelling multimedia opera with video by Beryl Korot and music by Steve Reich. It features recorded interviews set to live music. Palestinians, Israelis and Americans were invited in the early 1990s to respond from their Muslim, Jewish and secular perspectives about the importance of the story of Abraham and his burial place, The Cave of Machpelah in Hebron. It is a place held sacred by Jews, Muslims and Christians.

The Cave has an inspirational message that promotes interfaith understanding and goodwill.

St. Louis Performances March 11-12, 2017

Arts & Faith St. Louis, in collaboration with John Burroughs School, will present two performances of The Cave at Burroughs on Saturday, March 11, 2017 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 2 p.m.

Alarm Will Sound, an internationally acclaimed new music ensemble, will perform. People of all faiths and backgrounds will experience this piece together.

It's a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to.

The Hobbit

The Road goes ever on and on Down from the door where it began. Now far ahead the Road has gone, And I must follow, if I can, Pursuing it with eager feet, Until it joins some larger way, Where many paths and errands meet Still 'round the corner there may wait A new road or secret gate; And though I oft have passed them by, A day will come at last when I Shall take the hidden paths that run West of the Moon, East of the Sun.

Submitted by Paul Roesler

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The Cave Project is an opportunity to shine a light on St. Louis at its best and provide a forum for common understanding around issues that desperately need to be heard and discussed. It promises to be an event that illuminates, bridges divides, and serves as a catalyst for an important community conversation.

Ticket Sales

Tickets are available through MetroTix at 314-534-1111 or MetroTix.com:
$30 Orchestra / $25 Balcony / $10 Students
20% discount off regular Orchestra and Balcony prices for groups of 10 or more.

For more information about tickets, please contact Barbara Murray at bmurray@thesheldon.org
Mona, our Office Administrator, has just completed her 6th year in ministry with us! Bravo! As she neared this milestone she realized that working full-time was no longer something that she could do and maintain healthy balance in her life. Her relationships and her health need more attention. Mona has worked with the Personnel Committee and Kevin for many months to rework her job description and compensation to be a 32 hour per week – which has now been approved by our Church Council.

One of the biggest changes that you will notice is that we will no longer have the monthly newsletter. You are holding in your hand (or looking at on your screen) the final edition of our newsletter Intersections. We have received rave reviews about this communication over the years but after a serious look at Mona’s time, talents and to-do lists, we need to let this go. All of the information that has been conveyed via newsletters will come to you in other formats that already exist - the worship bulletin, weekly email, social media, verbal announcements, bulletin boards and signs/posters on easels! Intersections has been a wonderful expression of who we are and what we are about – but our mission and ministry will not be diminished by its absence.

Mona will be in the office 8 hours every Monday through Thursday to make up her 32 hours. Open office hours, when Mona will be available to take phone calls, drop-ins, appointments, etc will be from 10am-3pm. The remaining hours are reserved for creative tasks and projects (ie website and social media) that demand more focus and undivided attention. You can always call or reach out via mona@parkwayucc.org and she will get back with you in a timely manner.

We are grateful for your patience and understanding as we (including Mona) live into this new reality.

Peace, Kevin

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**YOU SAY GOODBYE AND I SAY HELLO**

Mona Smith Herberg

The truly creative mind in any field is no more than this: A human creature born abnormally, inhumanly sensitive. To him...a touch is a blow, a sound is a noise, a misfortune is a tragedy, a joy is an ecstasy, a friend is a lover, a lover is a god, and failure is death. Add to this cruelly delicate organism the overpowering necessity to create, create, create—so that without the creating of music or poetry or books or buildings or something of meaning, his very breath is cut off from him. He must create, must pour out creation.

By some strange, unknown, inward urgency he is not really alive unless he is creating. ~Pearl S Buck

So here it is. Our last monthly newsletter. An indefinite and likely permanent suspension of Intersections: Where Life and Faith Meet. A bittersweet moment for me. I won’t miss the stress and the all-nighters to pull it all together and complete! But this publication has been a wonderful creative outlet for me. And most who know me, label me as a “Creative.” For me, that means that creating is necessary for me—part of my essence and something I am driven to do. So I will miss the designing and layout more than you know. However, my creative nature cannot be restrained, so expect creative touches to pop out in unexpected places. You have been warned.

And the many of you who have contributed as authors, editors, artists, photographers, conceptualizers (is that a word? yes it is!) and critics (let’s NOT forget the critics!) have sharpened me, inspired me, provoked me and loved me. I am grateful to you. You’ve shared some vulnerable and powerful moments—and have touched the lives of many. Because if I’ve been sharpened, inspired, provoked and loved, so have our readers.

Since I began working here six years ago, it has always been about our readers: those of us in this wild, inclusive, joyful, responsible, intelligent, compassionate, generous, hard-working, traditional and innovative faith community. The telling of your stories has enriched the Parkway UCC story. Because your stories—our stories—all have a place in the Parkway Story.

Several of us also had a vision to make Intersections a publication that reached out to the community as well—and I feel we have succeeded with that vision: many of you have told me how you have shared this newsletter with family and friends. Because if you! You the writer and artist and photographer and idea person and YOU the reader. I know we will all miss this newsletter, but the Parkway Story will go on and will continue to be told. And remember:

Never place a period where God has placed a comma.

~A.A. Milne, from the wisdom of the characters in Winnie the Pooh stories. Submitted by Carol Cobb