



**THIRSTY
THIRSTY
VOICES**

Welcome to



Sunday, March 15, 2020

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ strives to be an inclusive community embracing: spiritual nourishment, open—minded inquiry, courageous action, and interfaith partnerships to fulfill God's calling to create a just world for all.

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 socio—economic 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.

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome

Thank you for joining us this morning. Please let us know you are here by signing a friendship card in your pew. If you are looking for a church home, please speak with us today.

Welcome Children. We invite children to full participation in worship. There are “creation bags” [with paper, crayons, colored pencils, etc.] available in the Gathering Space for the children to use. Infant/toddler care is available in Room 1. Ask an usher for directions.

Bell Rung During Lord’s Prayer, a tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop their work and join in prayer.

A Wheelchair & Walker [and crutches!] are located in the foyer and storage closet for Sunday use. To borrow them at other times, contact the office.

Hearing Assist Units available for use during worship. Ask an usher.

Please Recycle. If you are not taking your bulletin home or sharing it with a friend, please recycle it in the labeled basket in the sanctuary or in the blue container in the Gathering Space.

Photo and Personal Privacy Policy: Photos should generally not be taken of children in church except as part of organized activities and programs, and any requests of children or their parents or guardians should be respected. Please be respectful of privacy and mindful that this is a safe and sacred space for all who enter.

Subscribe to our email lists: Text your email address to 22828 or sign up at www.parkwayucc.org

Need a clip-on name tag? Sign the clipboard in the Gathering Space.

Guest WiFi: username: parkway-guest | password: parkway2841

Communications Requests: Please use the form at www.parkwayucc.org/communications for all announcements for the bulletin/eNews/website/social media/etc. Bulletin and eNews communications request deadline is noon Tuesday. Bulletin announcements will generally be run for three weeks prior to the event. However, all announcements will be posted via our various publications as fits in our communications strategy and as resources permit.

A Thank You Gift for Visitors: Please pick up a PUCC mug today or the next time you are here. They are located on the Welcome Table just inside the front doors.

Worship Volunteers

Sunday, March 15

- Greeters:** Mary Maxeiner
Reader: Dan Connors
Ushers: Kurt Oehler, Brad Brueggemann, Pam Manning
Coffee: Michelle Singer
Treats: John Ruiz
Flowers: Sue Moellering in honor of her mother, Katherine Biehl.

Sunday, March 22

- Greeters:** Joyce & John Ruiz
Reader: Dottie Dwyer
Ushers: Peggy and Mike Mohl, Conrad Damsgaard
Coffee: Jack Sieber
Treats: Olaf Arendelle
Flowers: Sue Stohr



Consider providing treats for Sunday morning Fellowship Team as old friends, new friends and first time visitors build and sustain relationships... <https://tinyurl.com/pucc-treats>



Beautify the sanctuary even more by signing up for flowers or plants some Sunday... <https://tinyurl.com/pucc-flowers>

Sunday Morning Flow

- 9:00am** Instrumentalists & Singers of the day rehearse
9:30am Coffee in the Gathering Space
9:55am Announcements in the Sanctuary
10:00am Worship begins with the Prelude; Sunday School immediately following the Children's Time
11:00am Fellowship Time with refreshments, old friends and new friends
11:15am Adult Education [some Sundays]

Christian Education

Children & Youth

Pathways of Faith: *St. Patrick*

Middle School & Sr High: *The Purpose of the Sabbath*

3rd Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 15, 2020 | 10:00am

*Please stand if it is comfortable to do so.

Meditation

All stories have in them the seed of all other stories, any story, if continued long enough, becomes other stories, and she is no true storyteller who would keep this from you. ~Red Earth and Pouring Rain, Vikram Chandra

Announcements Help build community by filling out the pew pad and passing it back to where it started—learn one another’s names as it passes you.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

[We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.]

Prelude *Andante*—Oscar Meier-Hansen

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song #469, v 1 *Morning Has Broken*

Morning has broken like the first morning

Blackbird has spoken like the first bird

Praise for the singing

Praise for the morning

Praise for them springing fresh from the Word

Scripture John 4:1-19 NRSV

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, “Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John”—although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized—he left Judea and started back to Galilee.

But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”

***Call to Worship** Resource: *Enfleshed* worship liturgy

One:	Since the beginning, God has been relentlessly pursuing us in love.
Many:	Though our faithfulness ebbs and flows, God’s love endures forever.
One:	Taking on flesh like ours, God became one with humanity in the person of Jesus Christ.
Many:	God loved and moved and ministered in the margins of power.
One:	God incarnate was not what we expected. We did not recognize God in Jesus. Still, we struggle to recognize God with us.
Many:	And yet, God continues to dwell in our midst. Thanks be to God.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** #2076—*O Blessed Spring* (blue songbook)

Opening Prayer Resource: modified from *Enfleshed* worship liturgy
Vine of strength, water that nourishes our body and soul, you have filled our lives with abundant manifestations from your creative hand. You gift us with diverse bodies and experiences. You come alive through stories and dreams that quench our thirst. Forgive us, O God, when we reject you by rejecting the belovedness of our neighbors. When we are so busy trying to be “Christian” that we fail to embody the work you have called us to. Give us the courage to recognize you anew in people, places, and ideas unexpected. Help us better understand you in and through all of creation. Amen, may it be so.

Lenten Candles *I Am the Vine*

We light seven candles as we continue on this Lenten journey. We want the light to illumine our path as we seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We commit to being more infused by the Spirit as we travel. Even as we know this is good and important work, we recognize that it isn’t easy—and we may come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness. We will extinguish one candle each time we gather for worship this season, acknowledging that this can be tough and exhausting work. As we approach the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning...the light that never goes out.

Prayer at the Candles

Holy One, we continue on this Lenten journey with Jesus because we want to watch him and listen to him—so that we might become more like him. Jesus has a solid sense of who he is. He tells us that he is the bread, door, vine, life, light, way, shepherd. He interacts with people in expected and unexpected ways—and they all learn and grow with the interaction. Send your Spirit to lead us, guide us and light the way to ourselves, one another, and the Holy. Amen.

Response

[tune: #363—I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (red hymnal)]

I want Jesus to walk with me.

I want Jesus to be in me.

All along this Lenten journey—

I want Jesus to live through me.

Scripture

Reading for Decolonization (John 4:1-42) Musa Dube, Mositi Totontle

Mmapula...went down the river to fetch water for her plants. Beside the well sat a still woman dressed in white clothing. Her head was bowed and focused in her open hands. Mmapula trod slowly, wondering who she was and what she was doing at this place and time. Mmapula sat down by the well and woman in white looked up and said, “Samaritan woman, give me a drink.”

Mmapula gave her a drink.

“Samaritan woman, go and call your husband,” she said, retaining Mmapula’s gourd without drinking the water.

“I am not a Samaritan woman and I have no husband.”

The woman in white closed her eyes for some seconds and said, “you have spoken well, Samaritan woman. you have no husband. In fact, the husband that you have does not belong to you but to the mines. I have come to give you a drink of living water,” she said handing Mmapula the same gourd of water. “Go back to your village and announce that a prophetess has come brining healing to the broken hearted. A prophetess has come brining healing to Borolong.”

The news spread at the speed of a veld fire through the small village.

Response *Clap Your Hands*

Led by Barb Kuhlmann

Children’s Time

Children through 5th grade will go to Room 2 for Pathways of Faith. Please pick your children up in the CE hallway at 11:15am.

Blessing the Children *The Jesus in Me*

The Je - sus_ in me loves the
Je - sus_ in you, the Je - sus_ in me loves the
Je - sus_ in you, so eas - y,____
so eas - y,____ so eas -
- y____ so eas-y to love.____

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Jesus in Me'. It consists of five staves of music in 4/4 time, written in a single treble clef. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'The Je - sus_ in me loves the Je - sus_ in you, the Je - sus_ in me loves the Je - sus_ in you, so eas - y,____ so eas - y,____ so eas - y____ so eas-y to love.____'. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

Mission Moment 2nd Mile Lent/Easter—Emma Landowski
Heifer Project | Lydia's House | Unleashing Potential | **Eden Seminary**

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory Interlude *Blessed Assurance*

Based on the tune *Assurance* by Phoebe Palmer Knapp

*Response

**Praise God for visions great and small,
Praise God who calls us one and all,
Praise God whose Spirit gives new sight,
Praise God who fills our lives with light. Amen**

*Prayer of Dedication

O God, your living water is embodied when we live into who you have called us to be. May these offerings be an example of our efforts to live in a more authentic relationship with you, this community, and the communities around us. May these gifts be a blessing to each person, place, and idea they encounter. Amen.

Reading *The Compassionate One and the Gambler*—Dottie Dwyer
Mother May stopped to rest in the park by the river. She took off her “Sunday-Go-to-Meetin’” hat and wiped her moist brow. She unlaced her sandals and rubbed her dark, dusty feet. She considered, for a moment, wading in the river. Her companions had left to seek lodging for the night.

Nearby was a riverboat casino full of many whom she knew to be wasting their lives and their livelihoods.

Just then, a weary Gambler left the casino in disgust, seeking solace and respite. Mother May beckoned to the Gambler to come, share the picnic table, and asked him for a bottle of water.

The Gambler laughed derisively and pulled out his empty pockets to show the woman his condition. He had nothing left to give, not even bus fare. He was amazed by the welcome, considering he reeked of smoke and alcohol and considering she looked like a church-going woman. But he appreciated the chance to unwind and the company under the shade tree.

Mother May began speaking to him about what she called “living water,” water which would quench all his thirsts. Intrigued, the Gambler begged for some of this miraculous water. Mother May said to him, “Go and tell your wife and then come back.”

The Gambler admitted, “I have no wife.” And Mother May replied, “So true, son. You have had five wives and the one you are living with now is not your wife.”

The Gambler was astonished at all the stranger knew about his ever-dissatisfied, ever-seeking life.

At this point Mother May’s companions returned and found their friend conversing with this dissolute-looking man. They weren’t too surprised because Mother May was always talking to just anybody regardless of social and safety concerns. That was just the way she was!

The Gambler surmised that this woman was some kind of wise woman, a healer perhaps, or even a prophetess. So, he left the river and went home to spread the news about the welcome he had received, the friend he had made, and the “living water” promised by the stranger in the park by the river.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer #2222—*The Servant Song* (blue songbook)

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer sung to the tune by Nate Stout

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

[A variety of names for God are welcome here—including in the Lord’s Prayer.]

***Parting Song**

***Benediction**

Depart from this time of worship, restored and refreshed by the living water. Go forth, in the power of the Holy Spirit, into the world as witnesses of God, ambassadors of reconciliation, and praising God's holy name.

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Great Is the Lord!*

Based on the song by Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith

Today! Speaker Series with Barry Luedloff

Understanding Music for Non-Musicians

Sunday, March 15 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Back again for another musical offering is Parkway's Music Director. This time he delves into the strange world of "reading" music by presenting a brief introduction to understanding the written language of music for non-musicians... what those little lines and number and symbols and dots and squiggles really mean.

March Alzheimer's News

Women are at the epicenter of the Alzheimer's crisis.

Almost two-thirds of American seniors living with Alzheimer's disease are women. An estimated 3.5 million women aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's. Women in their 60s are more than twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's disease over the rest of their lives as they are to develop breast cancer.

Not only are women more likely to have Alzheimer's, they are also more likely to be caregivers of those with Alzheimer's. Studies have consistently shown that women make up 60 percent to 70 percent of all unpaid Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers. This means that as many as 11 million women are currently providing unpaid care to someone with Alzheimer's or another dementia.

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or another dementia, you are not alone. The Alzheimer's Association is the trusted resource for reliable information, education, referral and support to millions of people affected by the disease. Call the 24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900.

Visit <https://thewomensalzheimersmovement.org/> for more information.

2nd Mile Lent & Easter 2020

Go the 2nd Mile with us!

We are pleased to announce that Parkway will again support four worthy organizations with its Second Mile Giving for Lent and Easter. We believe this blend of support will help Parkway create a local, national and international impact with its gifts. Please remember that Second Mile Giving is over and beyond the Operational Budget and donations will be divided evenly among the organizations listed below. Please be generous as these organizations need on our gifts in order to be more faithful and effective.

Lydia's House

Lydia's House works in faith to end domestic violence in St Louis by being a place of healing and a voice of hope for abused women and their children. The agency provides safe, confidentially—located furnished apartments for up to two years, assists women in creating and implementing goal plans that will help them live independently, and increases community awareness of domestic violence. For more information, please visit lydiashouse.org

UP—Unleashing Potential [formerly Neighborhood Houses]

For more than 100 years, Neighborhood Houses has loved children in St Louis. Currently, there are three main facets to their mission:

Early Childhood Education—Caroline Mission is a licensed and accredited Early Childhood facility operated by Neighborhood Houses. Our Mission is to provide quality affordable childcare for children from 6 weeks to 5 years of age. Caroline Mission is a “home away from home.”

Girls' Night Out: Neighborhood Houses and Parents as Teachers collaborated together in the design and execution of a program dedicated to supporting and assisting young mothers, ages 13—22. *Girls Night Out* is designed to promote healthy individuals and families.

After School Programs: Neighborhood Houses is the #1 provider of after school programming with the St Louis Public Schools ... fun & creative activities, homework assistance, character education, cultural awareness, health & fitness focus, arts & crafts, supervised recreation, and much more! For more information, please visit neighborhoodhouses.org

Heifer International

Heifer International does so much more than put food in the mouths of hungry people. Heifer helps people to feed themselves. The goal of every Heifer project is sustainability—project partners achieving self—reliance. And year after year, as partner families “pass on the gift” of knowledge and one or more of their animals' offspring to others in need, they become links in a network of hope, dignity and self—reliance that helps hundreds of others care for themselves. For more information, please visit heifer.org

Eden Seminary

Eden Theological Seminary is a graduate school preparing women and men for ordained Christian ministry. One of the six seminaries of the United Church of Christ, Eden is a community that seeks God's justice and peace in the world. Eden is welcoming, inclusive and ecumenically diverse.

Eden was established in 1850 at Marthasville, Missouri. It was established because a European education was not adequate to prepare pastors for Evangelical churches on the North American frontier. From its beginning, Eden has embodied an ecumenical spirit. Its first graduating class included six Evangelicals as well as a Methodist and a Mennonite.

Eden admitted its first African American student in 1933. In 1965, the late Joseph Cardinal Ritter of the Saint Louis Archdiocese became the first Roman Catholic Cardinal to address a graduating class in a Protestant seminary.

Today, students from many different denominations are engaged in theological education here. Eden remains committed to educating faithful and effective leaders for church and society. The seminary counts among its distinguished graduates Reinhold and H. Richard Niebuhr and Walter Brueggemann.

Eden Theological Seminary is committed to the study of theology in the context of the ecumenical Christian community and the contemporary interfaith world. For more information, please visit eden.edu.

Please be sure to clearly mark your 2nd Mile gifts throughout the season of Lent.

Announcements

Deadline for bulletin/e—news communications requests: noon Tuesdays. Fill out the form at www.parkwayucc.org/communications for publication.

Lenten Conversations – Take Action!

Tuesdays, March 10 & 24 | 7:00-8:30pm | Heritage Room

Are you looking for a response to our conversations with Jonathan Smith and Ginny Brown Daniel? Are you wondering what's next after reading *White Fragility*? Are you looking for action or a space to continue asking questions? Then this is for you!

Join us during this Lenten journey as we have continued conversations around privilege, naming our experiences, and understanding our relationship to white privilege. We will be reading the book: *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor* by Layla F. Saad. (Recommended by Ginny Brown Daniel).

Conversation and reflective questions being led by our student pastor Emma. Rather than chapters, the book is broken into days. This will allow us to cover the first two weeks on March 10th and the last two weeks on March 24th.

Books are available in the church office for \$10. If purchasing the book is an issue, please speak with Pastor Kevin for support. Questions? Reach out to emma@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330.

Cancelled: Town and Country Symphony Concert

Sunday, March 15

Baby Bundle Packs Collection: March 15-29

An interactive project we are doing on Maundy Thursday is assembling Baby Bundle Packs for *Missouri Festival of Sharing*. To donate, all items must be new and must be newborn to 6-month sized items. Items needed: *receiving blankets, sleepers, 3 pack of onesies, sweater or sweatshirt for warmth, disposable diapers*. Thank you for helping with this worthwhile project!

Sustainability Seekers Mon, Mar 16 | 1:00pm | Gathering Space

All are welcome to attend our monthly Sustainability Seeker Meeting which will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 16. Come once or always. Bring your passion for the future of our planet. Questions? Contact Polly Rutherford at 636-579-6375 or Polly Winkelmann at 314-503-4805.

Paper Shredding Event Saturday, March 21 | 9:00am - 12:00pm

Chesterfield Central Park West Pavilion

Bring your paper to get shredded on site. 5 box limit, \$5 per extra box.

Parkway Going to MoVal! Sat, Aug 22 | 10:00am - 5:00pm

Arrange to carpool from here or meet us at our Missouri Mid-South Conference's **Camp MoVal** in Union, MO (about an hour from here) for a Vesper Service and then we'll have fun boating, swimming, hiking and archery. This is a flexible schedule and you can do as little or as much as you want. Please let the Yakels know if you're coming da_yakel@att.net.

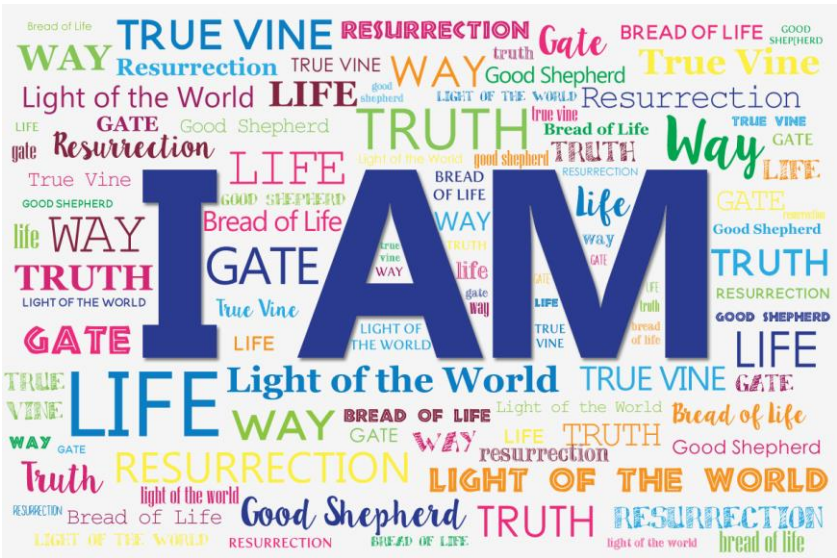
Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4, 2020 | Doors open at 9:30am | Parkway UCC

Rain or Shine! Join us for basket decorating/crafts, refreshments, games, an egg hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny! All are welcomed so invite your friends! Doors open at 9:30 for crafts and refreshments. Easter egg hunt begins at 10:00 AM. Age categories 0-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-12 years. For more information, contact (314) 872-0330 or www.parkwayucc.org.

Easter Egg Candy April 5 deadline

In addition to our community Easter egg hunt on April 4, Parkway's children are looking forward to the annual church Easter egg hunt on Sunday, April 12 after the Easter Worship service. Donations of individually wrapped candy will be gratefully accepted in the Gathering Space until Palm Sunday, April 5. Thanks for supporting a beloved tradition. Questions? Contact Barb Kuhlmann at barbk@parkwayucc.org.



Holy Week to Easter Our theme for Lent has been around *Identity*. Our prayer at the Lenten Candles since Ash Wednesday has been: **Holy One, we are on this Lenten journey with Jesus because we want to watch him and listen to him—so that we might become more like him. Jesus has a solid sense of who he is. He tells us that he is the bread, door, vine, life, light, way, shepherd. He interacts with people in expected and unexpected ways—and they all learn and grow with the interaction. Send your Spirit to lead us, guide us and light the way to ourselves, one another, and the Holy. Amen.**

Palm Sunday April 5 | 9:55am

We wave our palms and welcome Jesus into the City. Our Gospel Lesson, Matthew 21:1-11, tells the story of Jesus sending two of the disciples into the city to retrieve the donkey for him to ride on. What does Jesus ask us to do? How do we live how he suggests? Who are we because of him? Jesus says, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” We will celebrate the sacrament of communion at our open table.

Monday Prayer April 6 | 8-10pm

Come by the Prayer Corner in the sanctuary anytime in the evening between 8-10pm to pray w/Kevin about your unique Holy Week intentions, cares, joys.

Tuesday Prayer April 7 | 7:00-9:00am

Another opportunity for morning people from 7-9am in the Prayer Corner.

Wednesday Labyrinth April 8 | 3:00pm

A labyrinth is a patterned path, most often circular in form, used as a walking meditation or spiritual practice. A labyrinth’s walkway is arranged in such a way that the participant moves back and forth across the circular form through a series of curves, ending at the labyrinths’ heart or center.

We will meet in the Gathering Space at church, talk a bit about labyrinths and then head over to the *Mercy Center* on Bopp Road to walk their outdoor labyrinth. We learn a lot about ourselves through the twists and turns we take.

Maundy Thursday April 9 | 10am

We participate in a simple service of prayers, scripture, brief conversation about Jesus saying “I am the Good Shepherd” and find nurture and encouragement in Psalm 23 and the sacrament of communion at our *open table*. How are we both sheep and shepherd in our lives? We will tidy the sanctuary pews for Easter weekend and enjoy a light breakfast following the service. RSVP Harold Cobb ccjocobb@aol.com 314965-4147.

Maundy Thursday April 9 | 6:00pm

We begin with a potluck supper enjoying conversation and food around the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Following a short vesper service, we experience Jesus’ mandate as it is written in the Gospels, “Do you love me? Feed my lambs; tend my sheep” through several interactive service opportunities. We are people of generosity and care. This evening is for all ages. More information is on the sign-up poster in the Gathering Space.

Good Friday noon in the Historic Sanctuary

Revisit the intensity of the day in a way that tries to calm and comfort us as we feel the embrace of the Holy even now. We sing, hear scripture and observe some silence. Who is Jesus on Good Friday? Who are we at times like this?

Good Friday 7:00pm | New Sanctuary

On Good Friday we continue to hear from some of the people who interacted with Jesus during his final days on earth. Plan to be part of this service of lessons and songs of reflections as we continue to think about Jesus’ identity and our own. This experience will really connect you with the thoughts and inner dialogue of some of those who were a part of this as it first unfolded.

36 Hour Prayer Vigil - in your home or wherever you are!

Hour after hour, a PUCCer will be in prayer as we watch and wait together these 36 hours from the close of the Good Friday Evening Service until the sun comes up on Easter morning in the cemetery. Jesus often goes off to a quiet place to focus, breathe and pray. It’s our time to reflect on all that is unfolding inside of us and all around us. Sign-ups online and in the Gathering Space begin at the end of March.

Easter Sunday Sunrise 6:00am | cemetery behind the Historic Sanctuary

We will begin in the dark—around the “New Fire.” We will remember the retreat into darkness that the disciples took...then, as the sun comes up, we will reorient ourselves and feel the warmth and grace slowly coming over us and rising in us. We share communion and recommit ourselves to being Christ-like in what we think, say and do.

Easter Sunday 9:55am in the New Sanctuary

We made it! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! We rewind a bit and figure out how we ended up here. We will celebrate the resurrection and the Holy’s love and life that never end! Who are we now? What does the future look like as we go into it with a refreshed sense of who we are as Christians for this new day?

Prayer List

as of Friday, March 13, 2020

Celebrations

DR Josephine Grove - successfully defended her dissertation!

Lisa Mason - began radiation last week; no chemo needed!

Concerns

Dick Wegner - hospitalized for leukemia, other concerns (McKenzie).

Alan Nichols - chemo for cancer of spine; pain management (Pleis).

More Anti-LGBTQIA legislation being considered/debated in MO.

The Corona Virus.

US political landscape.

Continuing

Randal Barnes - radiation for cancer has started (Steve's brother).

Alice - released from rehab; back in St Louis now (Ellie Svenson's sis).

Cherie Stolze - ongoing health issues; navigating medications/fatigue.

Lori Connors - for strength, stamina through some health challenges.

Ruth Peace, Mary Whitney, Pinky Wilcoxon - health challenges.

Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.

Tina - undergoing tests for cancer; crafting a treatment plan (Scharf).

Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life.

Martha - receiving treatment for leukemia (sister of Mary Lynn Dario).

Irene - ongoing health concerns (Rosanna Hogarty's mom).

Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability (McKenzie).

Grateful Tran - in prison; struggles w/schizophrenia (Evelyn Burette)

Bob - still struggling with Parkinson's (McKenzie).

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.

Pregnancy

Dawn Jones-Goldstein and David Goldstein...

big brothers Mikey & Daniel - baby in the spring.

Rosanna & Kevin Hogarty will be first time grandparents mid-2020.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Millicent Guerri - living with cancer... 14300 Conway Meadows Ct E, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: December 5]

Georgia Herpel - *Cedarhurst*: 12826 Daylight Cir, St. Louis, MO 63131

Marv Herpel - *Brookdale West County*; 785 Henry Ave, #217;

Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-227-5838 [birthdate: March 3]

Ruth Murray - *Villages of St Peters Memory Care*:

5300 Executive Centre Pkwy, #107; St. Peters, MO 63376; 636-477-6955. [birthdate: September 11] Best times to visit – before 11am or after 2pm.

Pearl Sellenriek - *Friendship Village Care Center*; #725-2

15201 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Ellen Surber - *Delmar Gardens*: 14855 N Outer 40 Road, #508;

Chesterfield, MO 63017 (Lisa Davidson's mom) [birthdate: November 3]

Sue Houser - *Bethany Ctr for Rehab & Healing*; 421 Ocala Dr - #209B; Nashville, TN 37211; 615-577-2049. [birthdate: July 8]

Other

Dan Connors - completed writing a novel... taking next steps.

President Trump, Congress, all local, national, world leaders.

The “me too” Movement - shining a light on sexual abuse.

Healing of relationships between police and the public.

All people who live with mental illness.

PUCC Family (and others) struggling with healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC

Variety of Parkway members/friends - employment issues.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Peace and Justice near and far.

US Military around the globe.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending March 15 - **Peace UCC**, Webster Groves; peaceucctl.org

Week ending March 22 - **Faith UCC**, Little Rock, AR; faithuclr.org

Confession in a time of coronavirus

by Maren Tirabassi

Am I the only one
who has internally criticized
the first century citizens
who didn't want to go anywhere near
the bell-ringing of the lepers
and wondered why those citizens failed
to have compassion like Jesus
to reach out and touch them,
to reach out, willing to touch anyone—
mouth, eyes, nose?

Am I the only one
self-righteously appalled
at the blame-conjectures
surrounding the person born blind,
those terrible people

asking who it was sinned—
the person who didn't wash hands
or the one with the imperfect
self-quarantine?

I am, in fact, the one
who sat in the movie theatre
watching “Emma” next to a woman
coughing continuously
who didn't know her ...
tissue from her ineffective elbow,
or even her hand,
with zero compassion, plenty of blame,
and having to give up,
once and for all,
any illusions that I am Jesus.

Nursery Attendant New Hire We are pleased to announce Emma Pennycuik has been hired as the New Nursery Attendant replacing Becca Palmgren, who had conflicting working hours on Sunday mornings. Emma works for the Parkway School District part-time for the after-school program with children K-5th Grades. Emma is a full-time student at Maryville University and is a roommate of Alison Yakel. We welcome Emma to the ALL-IMPORTANT position of working in our Nursery with Julie Connors.

Birthdays

3/16	DELANNAY, Avery	3/19	RUIZ, John
3/16	HAACK, Christopher	3/20	REED, Lara
3/18	CLIFFORD, Patrick	3/20	SIMONSON, Andrew

Calendar

Sunday, March 15

- 10:00am Worship & Sunday School
- 11:15am Speaker Series: Barry Luedloff
- 2:30pm **CANCELLED:** Town & Country Symphony Concert

Monday, March 16

- 1:00pm Sustainability Seeker Meeting
- 7:00pm Team Emma

Tuesday, March 17 | St Patrick's Day

- 9:30am Financial Audit Committee
- 7:00pm Church Council

Wednesday, March 18

- 1:30pm Staff Devotions/Meeting
- 6:30pm Choir Practice

Thursday, March 19

- 1:00pm Thursday Afternoon Bible Study

Sunday, March 22

- 10:00am Worship & Sunday School
- 11:15am Speaker Series: Evelyn Buretta—Army Experiences

Notes

March 15, 2020

John 4:5-42

Thirsty Voices Amistad Sunday

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

On this *Amistad Sunday*, we remember those who thirsted for justice aboard the slave ship *Amistad*. We remember how women, children and men were stolen from their homes, were loaded like cargo onto a ship, were mocked and tortured. We remember the horrors of that terrible voyage and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember how those imprisoned aboard the *Amistad* were strangers to each other, and did not even speak the same language, yet still worked together to plan and execute an escape. We remember how the prisoners took control of the ship. We remember how the ship *Amistad* was then captured a second time, and how those children of God were imprisoned once again, this time on American soil. We remember the indignity of imprisonment and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember how a legal battle then began, to send those imprisoned on the *Amistad* home to the African soil from which they had been stolen. We remember those, many of them our ancestors in faith, who worked for justice both from within and outside of prison bars. We remember those who have fought for freedom from unjust confinement and we say never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry.

We remember and give thanks for these, our ancestors in faith who fought for freedom from sea and land. We celebrate their courage and we honor their dedication. We join them here and now as we say with one voice that never again will the cry for justice go unanswered.

Your people are thirsty for justice, Holy God. Hear our cry, now and forever. Amen.

Find out more about the *Amistad* case of 1839 at the National Archives:

<https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/amistad>

