



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, August 16, 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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Office Hours: Mon - Thu 8:30am-3:00pm; Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

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Welcome

Thank you for joining us this morning. Please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat.

Welcome Children. We invite children to full participation in worship.

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

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

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.

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Anniversaries

8/19 WOLFF, Scott & Katy (20)

8/20 KLEIN, William & Pat (46)

8/20 SIEBER, Jack & Peggy (54)

8/20 WINKELMANN, Jim & Polly (26)

Birthdays

8/16	LARSON, A. F.	8/21	MAXEINER, Mary
8/19	LANGTON, Gerre	8/21	SCALION, Karen
8/19	TUPPER, Tom	8/21	SCHULENBURG, Cassie
8/21	MASTERSON, Nancy	8/22	BYERLY, Sam

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2020 | 10:00am

Meditation

History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people. ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Stillness *Be still, and know that I am God.* ~Psalm 46:10

Passing the Peace of Christ

"May the peace of Christ be with you."
(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

Prelude The Church in the Wildwood—arr. Tom Birchwood Based on the tune by William Savage Pitt

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell



Scripture Genesis 45:1-15 (CEB – Common English Bible)

Joseph could no longer control himself in front of all his attendants, so he declared, "Everyone, leave now!" So no one stayed with him when he revealed his identity to his brothers. He wept so loudly that the Egyptians and Pharaoh's household heard him. Joseph said to his brothers, "I'm Joseph! Is my father really still alive?" His brothers couldn't respond because they were terrified before him.

Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me," and they moved closer. He said, "I'm your brother Joseph! The one you sold to Egypt. Now, don't be upset and don't be angry with yourselves that you sold me here. Actually, God sent me before you to save lives. We've already had two years of famine in the land, and there are five years left without planting or harvesting. God sent me before you to make sure you'd survive and to rescue your lives in this amazing way. You didn't send me here; it was God who made me a father to Pharaoh, master of this entire household, and ruler of the whole land of Egypt.

"Hurry! Go back to your father. Tell him this is what your son Joseph says: 'God has made me master of all of Egypt. Come down to me. Don't delay. You may live in the land of Goshen, so you will be near me, your children, your grandchildren, your flocks, your herds, and everyone with you. I will support you there, so you, your household, and everyone with you won't starve, since the famine will still last five years.' You and my brother Benjamin have seen with your own eyes that I'm speaking to you. Tell my father about my power in Egypt and about everything you've seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." He threw his arms around his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his shoulder. He kissed all of his brothers and wept, embracing them. After that, his brothers were finally able to talk to him.

Opening Words Blessing in the Chaos—Jan Richardson

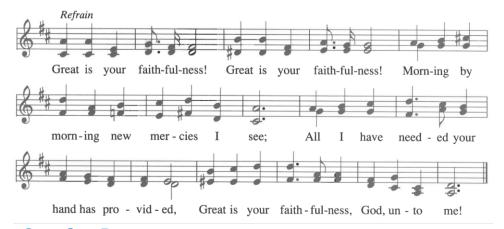
To all that is chaotic in you, let there come silence. Let there be a calming of the clamoring. a stilling of the voices that have laid their claim on you, that have made their home in you, that go with you even to the holy places but will not let you rest, will not let you hear your life with wholeness or feel the grace that fashioned you. Let what distracts you cease. Let what divides you cease. Let there come an end to what diminishes and demeans. and let depart all that keeps you in its cage. Let there be an opening into the quiet that lies beneath the chaos, where you find the peace you did not think possible and see what shimmers within the storm.

Call to Worship

One:	Calling all poets and prophets		
Many:	Inviting all mystics and musicians		
One:	Welcoming shamans and scholars		
Many:	Aligning with artists and agnostics		
One:	Waiting for engagers and evaders		
Many:	Gathering with family and friends		
One:	Attentive to artists and agnostics		
Many:	Inclusive of immigrants and indignants		
One:	Listening for athletes and atheists		
Many:	Open to politicians and preachers		
One:	Awakened to the disaffected and the distinguished		
Many:	In the company of strangers and sweet steady siblings		
All:	We come to worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit—and to listen and learn from one another.		

Song Great is Your Faithfulness





Opening Prayer

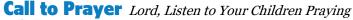
Glossary of Greatness, Companion of the lonely, Binder of wounds, Seeker of lost souls, Friend of the poor, Source of all that is, Forgiver of sins, Voice of the voiceless, Counselor of the confused, Shelter from the storm, Creator of heaven and earth... We in our own ways worship and adore you. Amen.

Children's Time Children and Youth are invited to separate Zoom classrooms immediately following this Children's Time.

Blessing the Children Weave

Weave, weave, weave us together. Weave us together in unity and love. Weave, weave, weave us together. Weave us together, together in love.

Reflections





Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

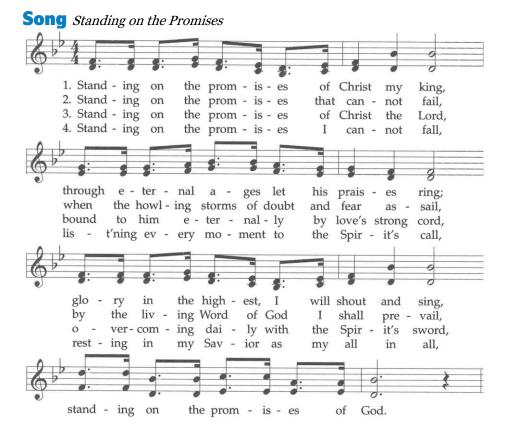
Lord's Prayer The New Zealand Anglican Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.





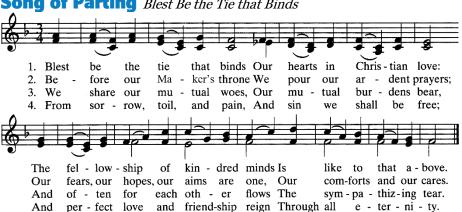
Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory Evan (Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways) arr Albert Beck Based on the melody by William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

Words of Dedication Wayne Muller

Another practice invites us to bless strangers quietly, secretly. Offer it to people you notice on the street, in the market, on the bus. "May you be happy. May you be at peace." Feel the blessing move through your body as you offer it. Notice how you both receive some benefit from the blessing. Gently, almost without effort, each and every blessing becomes a Sabbath. Amen.





Benediction Christ Has No Body—Teresa of Ávila (attributed)

Christ has no body now on earth but yours

No hands, no feet on earth but yours

Yours are the eyes through which He looks

Compassion on this world

Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good

Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world

Yours are the hands

Yours are the feet

Yours are the eyes

You are His body

Christ has no body now on earth but yours

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth Be My Vision—improvisation on piano

Based on the trad. Irish tune Slane

Announcements

Fellowship Time

Today | 11:15am | via ZOOM

Fellowship Time! Join us for some great conversation and connection!

ZOOM link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83444913658?pwd=c2NER0FWV0tNMTV5bjF3TDFkdWhRQT09

Meeting ID: 834 4491 3658 | Passcode: 311054 | Phone: (312) 626-6799

Next Week: Parkway Speaker Series

Sunday, August 23 | 11:15am | online

Barry Luedloff presents *Music's Written Language: Understanding Music for Non-Musicians.* What those little lines and number and symbols and dots and squiggles really mean.

Tuesday Evening Dialogue August 25

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 7:00pm | via ZOOM

If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin

Be a part of the discussion of this honest and stunning novel that inspired the award-winning major motion picture of the same name, James Baldwin has given America a moving story of love in the face of injustice.

ZOOM link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88245410276?pwd=YW1NSIc0YWNMSGo3bWZrUHIrWFVXUT09

Meeting ID: 882 4541 0276 | Passcode: 221351 | Phone: (312) 626-6799

Give-A-Meal Anytime this Summer!

Make a financial contribution and/or share non-perishable food items with Isaiah 58 or Circle of Concern. They are doing critically important work these days. Monetary support can be sent to them directly. Food can be dropped there (note their restricted hours) or here on the table just inside the main doors. https://i58ministries.org/ and http://www.circleofconcern.org/

St Louis Metro Area Crop Walk 2020 Sunday, October 25

Please visit www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo for all details of this virtual walk. When you go to the website, enter the name of our walk, Parkway UCC and it will take you to our donation page. The need for food is HUGE this year, both locally and internationally, so we are accepting donations now so the monies can be distributed immediately. Thanks for all you do, Parkway. Your Crop Walk Team, Sue Moellering, Gerry and Mike Rogers, and Pamela Manning.

LIFE classes from Eden Seminary will be happening via Zoom this fall. We are going to go back to the Friday evening- shorter Saturday format as the faculty feels that this will help reduce "Zoom Fatigue" for the Certificate courses. The Psalm Elective will be three Wed. nights.

So the timing will be Friday 7:00-9:00

Sat. 9-11:30/12:30-2:00.

Full course descriptions from the Eden faculty and registration information will be available soon.

Certificate Courses:

Sept. 25 & 26 Missional Leadership with Rev. Steve Lawler Oct. 23 & 24 Preaching, Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy Nov. 13 & 14 Pastoral Care, Rev. Dr. Kristen Leslie PSALM elective: Sept. 9, 16, 23 7:00-9:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. Clint McCann.

Habitat for Humanity St. Louis Due to the pandemic, there are currently no construction volunteer opportunities available. However, our local Habitat staff continues to finish the 5 homes in the La Saison neighborhood, and will then move on to 5 new homes in the Gate neighborhood.

The need for financing still exists. Through the generosity of two anonymous donors, your gift to Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis can go twice as far! From now through August 31st, gifts made by donors like you will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$40,000 - that's a total of \$80,000 we can potentially raise with your help!

Remember: in order for your gift to count toward the match, you must give directly to our local office at 3830 South Grand Blvd or make your gift online at www.habitatSTL.org. Thank you for helping us make the most of this fundraising opportunity, which translates to affordable housing for families in need, right here in St. Louis.

More info? Tom McKenzie: mckenzie1947@att.net | (314) 567-0429

Garden between Education and Office Wings

As a member of Parkway's Property team, Roger Fauss would like to borrow a tiller to break up some of the packed soil in the area between the Education and Office wing of the church in an effort to have vegetation grow and beautify the space. If you would be willing to share your tiller, please contact Roger to work through the details.

Contact Roger Fauss: (314) 275-2332 | rogerfauss@prodigy.net

Intertwine Interfaith Spiritual Sustenance Session 4

Thursday, August 27 | 6:30pm | via ZOOM

Please join us for our next Virtual Intertwine Interfaith Gathering. Speakers from Abrahamic Traditions will talk about our faiths' *Belief in the Afterlife*. Participants will have the opportunity to share reflections on the afterlife and how the teaching of their tradition affects their daily life.

The last portion of our gathering will be a guided open conversation encouraging all participants to share. During these months of physical distancing, many people have been able to discover or confirm things about themselves—their style, their relationships, their gifts, their needs. They have been able to view their 'normal' lives and routines more objectively. Prior to whatever 'new normal' we find ourselves in later, we can reset our priorities and practices and participation in community. What lessons from this time period will go into the next chapter of your life? How will you be different in this next chapter of your life and our life together?

We look forward to continuing to build community together! Questions? Please contact Lisa Mason or Paige Penico.

ZOOM:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86790885578?pwd=Rk9mdXJtdldRazhDbFo1ckFUUk9 hUT09

Meeting ID: 867 9088 5578 | Passcode: 4YTahZ | Phone: (312) 626-6799 US

Sign-up for "Clean-up, Fix-up, Paint-up!"

Thru August 20

We still have many tasks to do so have extended the time on this project. Help clean, paint and do minor repairs. Two-hour shifts (separated by 30 minute intervals) are available each day for all skill/willing-to-help levels. The times are spread out so that that social distancing can be practiced during. You must schedule your session so that we can maintain social distancing. Masks and signing in upon entering the building are required.

Signup here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040445adad2ca7fb6-clean

Questions? Contact Mike Mason (Mike Mason mmason_family@yahoo.com) or Kathy Ferrell (kathy@parkwayucc.org). More details as you sign up.

PUCC Prayer List as of August 12, 2020

Celebrations

A new and unique school year is beginning. All the acts of kindness that are happening near and far! The momentum toward justice and equity.

Concerns

Tina Hubbard - on ventilator due to obstacles from cancer treatment (lifelong friend of Ingrid Scharf).

Naomi and Joe Runtz - as she recuperates from knee replacement. **Rosanna and Kevin Hogarty** - remembering her mother, Irene Juris. Steve and Andrea Barnes - upon the death of his brother Randall. Mary Herpel - strengthening after a fall - Surrey Place... 314-413-0985; Canyon Creek #21; 14701 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017. Susan Sieber Carroll – healing after surgery due to Crohn's Disease. Healthcare workers, homeless and many others at risk right now. Physical Distancing... if anyone needs groceries, medicine and/or other support, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-330-0629 People who are struggling with their mental health. **People who aren't feeling safe at home** but are remaining there. **Individuals in all levels of leadership** as they make decisions today. Healing of relationships between the public and the police. People of **Beirut**, **Lebanon** as they recover from violence and more.

Continuing

Pat and Bill Klein - settling in at Anthology in Wildwood. ** David Haack - 'acute care'; no longer COVID-19 positive (Bill's dad). Cherie Stolze - ongoing health issues; navigating medications/fatigue. **Lori Connors** - for strength, stamina through some health challenges. Ruth Peace & Pinky Wilcoxen - PUCC sisters with health challenges. **Bill Darland** - ongoing health issues.

Tina - undergoing treatment for cancer (Scharf).

Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life. **Gary** - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability (McKenzie). **Grateful Tran** - in prison; struggles w/schizophrenia (Evelyn Buretta) **Bob** - continues to struggle with Parkinson's (McKenzie). Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.

The extended Eggebrecht Family - healing and wholeness.

Pregnancy

Laura & Phil Waite... pending big brothers Henry, Oscar and Felix.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

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

Marv Herpel - Brookdale West County; 785 Henry Ave, #217; Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-227-5838 [birthdate: March 3]

**Pat Klein - Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood; 251 Plaza Dr, #325; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: September 21]

**Bill Klein - Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood; 251 Plaza Dr, #104; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: March 8]

Pearl Sellenriek - *Friendship Village Care Center*; #725-2 15201 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Dwight Smith - Manor Grove; 711 S Kirkwood Rd; Kirkwood, MO 63122;

[birthdate: September 6]

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. **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 August 16 - St. Johns Evangelical UCC, Mehlville; stjucc.org Week ending August 23 - St. John's UCC, Chesterfield; stjohnsuccchesterfield.org

A prayer by Bishop Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
O God,
make the door of this house wide enough
to receive all who need human love and fellowship,
and a heavenly Father's care;
and narrow enough to shut out
all envy, pride and hate.
Make its threshold smooth enough
to be no stumbling-block to children,
or to straying feet,
but rugged enough
to turn back the tempter's power:
make it a gateway
to thine eternal kingdom. Amen

Many traditions use mantras or the repeating of words to focus. I can use scripture to lift me up. Walking or driving in a quiet, safe place, with no radio or other distractions, Psalm 121 connects me to my Creator and all who have heard this psalm before me and helps give me peace and hope. The first two verses help to replace negative thoughts with positive ones. "I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." And the last verse is as comfortable as a warm blanket. "The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore." I can meditate on these words and feel peace begin to settle in. The entire psalm is a comfort to me. ~Jackie Eiffert

I have a verse that has meant a lot to me for several years now - Psalm 16:11. *You have made known to me the path of life.* All my life I have tried to be different: less shy, more outgoing or funny or athletic or whatever. I wanted to be just like my mom. When I came across that verse a very clear image came to mind. I was in the woods and could see paths everywhere. I realized each path represented a different person's life. I could see their path but I couldn't walk on it - I had my own. Sometimes I got one or both feet off the path or sometimes even got turned around but with the help of Jesus I could always get back on my path and headed in the right direction. Sometimes I felt His presence with me and other times I knew He was somewhere up ahead but waiting for me. This imagery has helped me in so many instances and made me better appreciate my own and others' points of view. As long as I keep moving forward, I know all will be well no matter how long it takes.

~Diane Cunningham

A book series I loved regularly brought in Philippians 4:13. The phrase the characters would say to each other was "Philippians 4:13, for Pete's sake!" This really stuck with me and always pops in my head when I need it! Helps me to stop, take a deep breath, and continue... "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." **~Cassie Schulenburg**

Isaiah 40:28-31: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the whole earth. He never becomes faint or weary; there is no limit to his understanding. He gives strength to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Youths may become faint and weary, and young men stumble and fall, but those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not become weary, they will walk and not faint. ~Ingrid Scharf

Matthew 6:25-34 -- "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arraved like one of these." ~Carol Cobb

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 16, 2020

Genesis 45:1-15

Bold Moves

Holy God, We know that union with all people is your will for us. Hear our prayer for re-union.

We pray for re-union across class and economics. Grant to those who have abundance the wisdom and courage to share in order to strengthen those who have less. Grant to those who live in scarcity, the strength to organize and speak. Hear our prayer for re-union.

We pray for re-union across national borders. Where we have erected walls, and made political division more important than human rights, heal us we pray. Help us to remember that all people, no matter the color of their skin or the language they speak or the opportunities into which they were born, are your beloved children. Hear our prayer for re-union.

We pray for re-union among families. Heal us, we pray, so that we not Pass the sins of our fathers and mothers Forward to the next generation. Send your healing love like a balm on those families separated by violence or misunderstanding. In your name, we pray, Amen.

