

RE FORM ATION

 **PARKWAY**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS
October 25, 2020



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, October 25, 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 to Parkway

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 Monday. 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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Birthdays

10/25 KRAUSE, Ashley

10/29 CLIFFORD, Daniel

10/25 WILLIAMS, Meera

10/29 COLEMAN, Bart

10/28 RISTAU, Nancy

Habitat for Humanity / UCC partnership

Having a place to call home is more important than ever in this time of social distancing. Thank you for supporting our mission, which gives hope to families deeply affected by this crisis.

Please visit our website at www.habitatSTL.org to learn more.

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2020 | 10:00am

Meditation

*We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time. ~T.S. Eliot*

Announcements Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

Prelude Luther’s Reformation Hymn: Improvisations on *Ein Feste Burg*

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *You are Welcome Here*

You are wel - come here, no mat - ter who you are, no mat - ter
where you are on life's jour - ney. You are wel come here,
no mat - ter who you are, come and
join with us, in our U - ni - ted Church of Christ.

Scripture for Reformation Sunday

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”
~Romans 1:17

For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift.... ~Ephesians 2:8

...like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
~1 Peter 2:5

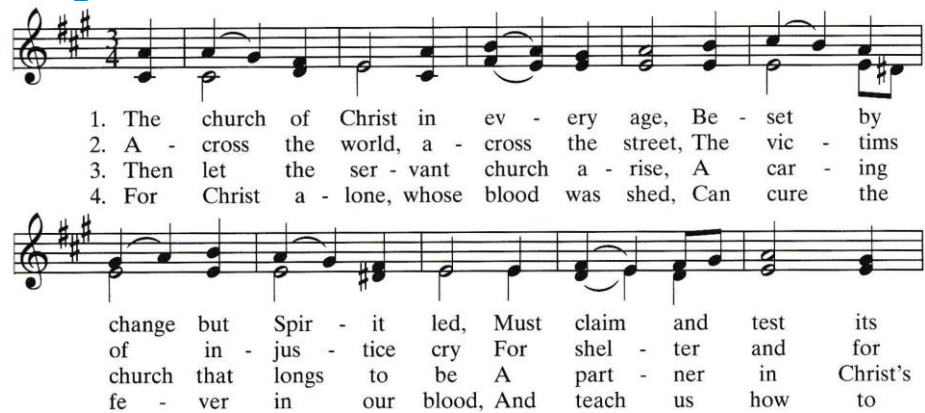
All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. ~2 Timothy 3:16

Jesus said, “Accept my teachings and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit, and you will find rest for your lives. The burden that I ask you to accept is easy; the load I give you to carry is light.” ~Matthew 11:29-30

Call to Worship

One:	Once upon a time...
Many:	The people were tired of being stifled, stymied, stunted by authorities that did not respect them
One:	Once upon a time...
Many:	The people could no longer deny their dreams of sacred space - where they could stretch and shape their own community based on their hungers and thirsts
One:	Once upon a time...
Many:	The people made a plan to go to a new land they envisioned as flowing with milk and honey
One:	Once upon a time...
Many:	The people took risks, paid the ultimate price, creating and renewing their spirits mingled with the Spirit of God
One:	Once upon a time might also be now.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Song *The Church of Christ in Every Age*



1. The church of Christ in ev - ery age, Be - set by
 2. A - cross the world, a - cross the street, The vic - tims
 3. Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, A car - ing
 4. For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, Can cure the

change but Spir - it led, Must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry For shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be A part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, And teach us how to



her - i - tage And keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, And nev - er live un - til they die.
sac - ri - fice, And clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread And feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.

5. We have no mission but to serve
In full obedience to our Lord:

To care for all, without reserve,
And spread Christ's liberating word.

Opening Prayer UCC Statement of Faith

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

Response *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

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.

Scripture *Psalms 90:1-5, 13-17 (New Revised Standard)*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed
the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are
God. You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is
past, or like a watch in the night. You sweep them away; they are
like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may
rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as you
have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious
power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon
us, and prosper for us the work of our hands— O prosper the work
of our hands!

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon *America 400*

Call to Prayer *You are Mine*



1. — I will come to you in the si - lence, —
2. — I am hope for all who are hope-less, —
3. — I am strength for all the de - spair-ing, —
4. I am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from — all your fear. —
I am eyes for all who long to see. In the
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame. —
am the peace the world can - not give. —



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, be
shad-ows of the night, I will be your light,
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain, stand



still and know I am here. _____
come and rest in
all will know my
up, now walk, and



me. _____
name. _____
live! _____

Do not be a - fraid, I am



with you. I have called you each by name.



Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine. _____

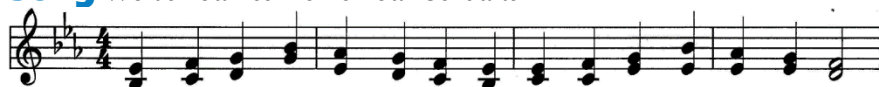
Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

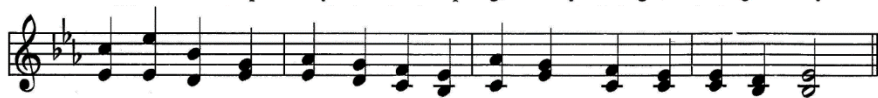
Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

Song *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant*



Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
I will hold the Christ - light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.

Stewardship Moment *Love of Children—Amy Yakel*

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word—Albert Beck*

Response *Doxology for Humanity (Old Hundredth)*

Praise life that makes us change and grow

Praise love that makes compassion flow

Praise peace that ends all strife and fear

Praise hands that work for justice here

Praise ears that hear the children's cries

Praise truth that drives out cruel lies

Praise hearts that value human worth

Praise lives that build a better earth

Praise eyes that see all human need

Praise minds that cast out selfish greed

Praise lips that challenge those in power

Praise those who struggle every hour

Praise faith that keeps us ever strong

Praise hope that triumphs over wrong

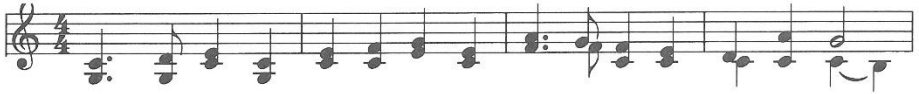
Praise dreams that make our spirits rise

Praise voices raised in joyful cries

Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, you are with us every step of the way as we are pilgrims on a journey; we are travelers on the road. We are here to help each other - share the mile and bear the load. Help us to be a servant and thus be a blessing one to another. Amen.

Song of Parting *In the Midst of New Dimensions*



1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,
3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
4 We are one and we are man - y all per-sua-sions, old and young,
5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,



Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?
Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.



God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your



peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth *St. Denio (Immortal, Invisible, Good Only Wise)*—based on the Welsh folk melody

Announcements

TODAY! St Louis Metro Area Crop Walk Sunday, October 25

It will be followed by the CROP Concert. All CROP Walk Events will be virtual this year. The need to alleviate hunger continues greater than ever. Please visit the CROP Walk website for details: www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo Please join Parkway's team as a virtual walker, or donate to the team. If you have questions, please contact your Parkway CROP Team: Mike and Gerry Rogers, Pam Manning, Sue Moellering

Tuesday Evening Dialogue October 27

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

We continue our discussion *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. This is a tale of three generations, from the Civil War to the 20th century: a story about fathers and sons and the spiritual battles that still rage at America's heart. Pulitzer Prize winner 2004. Please read up to page 120 for this discussion.

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89263841824?pwd=eIVDSVVUMHZZeStLZlBLeEZjWVBVZz09>

Meeting ID: 892 6384 1824 | **Passcode:** Book Club

Phone: (312) 626 6799 US | **Passcode:** 410992587

Circle of Concern Thanksgiving Baskets due Nov 15

In light of Covid, we are streamlining our Thanksgiving Basket program to give holiday foods to 750 families in the month leading up to Thanksgiving. Circle will be providing a frozen turkey and pie, a gift card to Aldi's and many cans of vegetables. We are asking for churches to help provide the contents for a box containing Thanksgiving staples.

Parkway UCC will hopefully provide 100 of each of the following items by November 15. Joe and I will then pack the boxes and transport them to Circle for distribution.

Each box will contain:

can of pumpkin	stuffing mix
corn bread mix	canned fruit
jar of turkey gravy	can of cranberry sauce
32oz. box of chicken or vegetable broth	

It would be ideal if each bag donated would contain all 7 items so we end up with equal amounts. If you cannot provide that, please drop off what you can.

Please leave your donations between the sets of front doors, under the table with the sign that says Circle of Concern Thanksgiving Baskets.

Thank you in advance for your help, Parkway family. Take good care!

~Lana Biondo - *Recent Past President of the Board at Circle of Concern*



Beloved, Love the Children.

“Grown men can learn from very little children, for the hearts of the little children are pure. Therefore, the Great Spirit may show to them many things which older people miss.” – Black Elk 1863-1950

How often have I found myself amazed at the simple wisdom of children? Children have a profoundly different perspective on how they see the world – if only we could see the world through their eyes! Jesus tells us in our sacred texts that we must become like little children to enter the kin-dom of heaven. (*Matthew 18.3*)

In 2019, Skyland Community United Church of Christ, through their Love of Children, reached out to the broader community to create a photo exhibition. Located in the Santa Cruz mountains of California, the congregation invited children ages 4 – 11 from the community to submit photographs. Over 80 children participated in the “My World in the Santa Cruz Mountains” exhibit. People from all ages attended the exhibit reception replete with milk and cookies. Each participant was valued as an artist and encouraged to talk about their submission.



All enjoyed the playful and profound perspectives of their world in the mountains through the eyes of the children.

What might we learn about one another, our communities, and especially our church if we were to see them through the eyes of a child? Do they feel heard... seen...valued? How do they know they are ‘beloved’?

As you reflect on stewardship in our church, think about these things. How do your actions express your love of children? Are children engaged in ways that also inspire us? What do they teach us about love? Nelson Mandela reminded us, “Our children are our greatest treasure. They are our future.” Beloved, Love the children.

WEEKLY GIVING IF THE PERCENTAGE IS
(Rounded to the nearest dollar)

Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	15%
16,000	1,333	308	6.00	12.00	18.00	25.00	31.00	46.00
20,000	1,667	385	8.00	15.00	23.00	31.00	39.00	58.00
25,000	2,083	481	10.00	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00	72.00
30,000	2,500	577	12.00	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00	87.00
35,000	2,917	673	13.00	27.00	40.00	54.00	67.00	101
40,000	3,333	769	15.00	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00	115
45,000	3,750	865	17.00	35.00	52.00	69.00	87.00	130
50,000	4,167	962	19.00	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00	144
60,000	5,000	1,154	23.00	46.00	69.00	92.00	115	173
75,000	6,250	1,442	29.00	58.00	87.00	115	144	216
100,000	8,333	1,923	38.00	77.00	115	154	192	288
125,000	10,417	2,404	48.00	96.00	144	192	240	361

PUCC Prayer List as of October 21

Celebrations

Laura & Phil Waite, big bros Henry, Oscar, Felix welcome Linus!

Alicia Rutherford - back at work after Covid-19.

All the acts of kindness that are happening near and far!

The momentum toward justice and equity.

Concerns

Sally Boughman - recuperating at Surrey Place after hip replacement.

Judy Toombs and family as they grieve the sudden death of Gene.

David Haack - back in TX hospital with a nasty infection (Bill's father).

Burt - hospitalized; making strides in healing (Mona Herberg's brother).

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 affected by storms, fires yesterday/today/tomorrow.

Continuing

Cherie & Mike Stolze - her health; her father's kidney disease.

Polly Rutherford - healing from her successful back surgery.

Nelson Spencer - very serious heart condition (Ellie Svenson).

Blake - recent cancer diagnosis (Greg Schmelig).

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

Ruth Peace & Pinky Wilcoxon - PUCC sisters with health challenges.

Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.

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.

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 Memory Care Division* #1001; 15250 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Dwight Smith - *Garden View*; 13612 Big Bend Rd, Room #2407; Valley Park, MO 63088; 636-923-8693. Now Charlotte can walk from *Cape Albeon* to visit with him at his window. [birthdate: September 6]

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

Other

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 October 18 - Emmaus Homes; emmaushomes.org

Week ending October 25 - St Paul's UCC, Oakville; sp4u.org

21st Sunday *after* Pentecost

October 25, 2020

The Compassionate Life

Matthew 22:34-46

UCC Higher Education Sunday

Dear Christ, our Teacher.

Instruct us, we pray.

The world teaches us to compete for the right answer.

The world teaches us to be better, faster, stronger.

The world teaches us that bigger is better.

The world teaches us to put the pedal to the metal.

The world teaches us to live fast and die young.

The world teaches us to go big or go home.

The world teaches us to work harder and smarter.

The world teaches us to put our nose to the grindstone.

The world teaches us to work hard and play hard.

The world teaches us that the world is our oyster.

The world teaches us to pull ourselves up by the bootstraps.

The world teaches us to put on our stiff upper lip.

The world teaches us no pain, no gain.

Instruct us, Teacher Christ.

Silence all those other voices so we can hear your teaching.

So simple, it can be shared in just a few words.

So sophisticated, it can take a lifetime to master.

So that one day, we can live what we are taught and

Love our God with all our heart and mind and soul and our neighbor as our self.

Amen.

Today is UCC Higher Education Sunday. There are 48 educational institutions related to the United Church of Christ, including academies, colleges, universities, and seminaries. They span the United States. Each is independent, self-governing, and fully accredited... These institutions provide opportunities to explore moral values, the importance of social responsibility, an ethic of service, and the ability to think critically. Many have campus ministries that are ecumenical and interfaith. Each embodies the UCC ethos where God is Still Speaking... Find out more at <https://www.ucc.org/higher-education>.