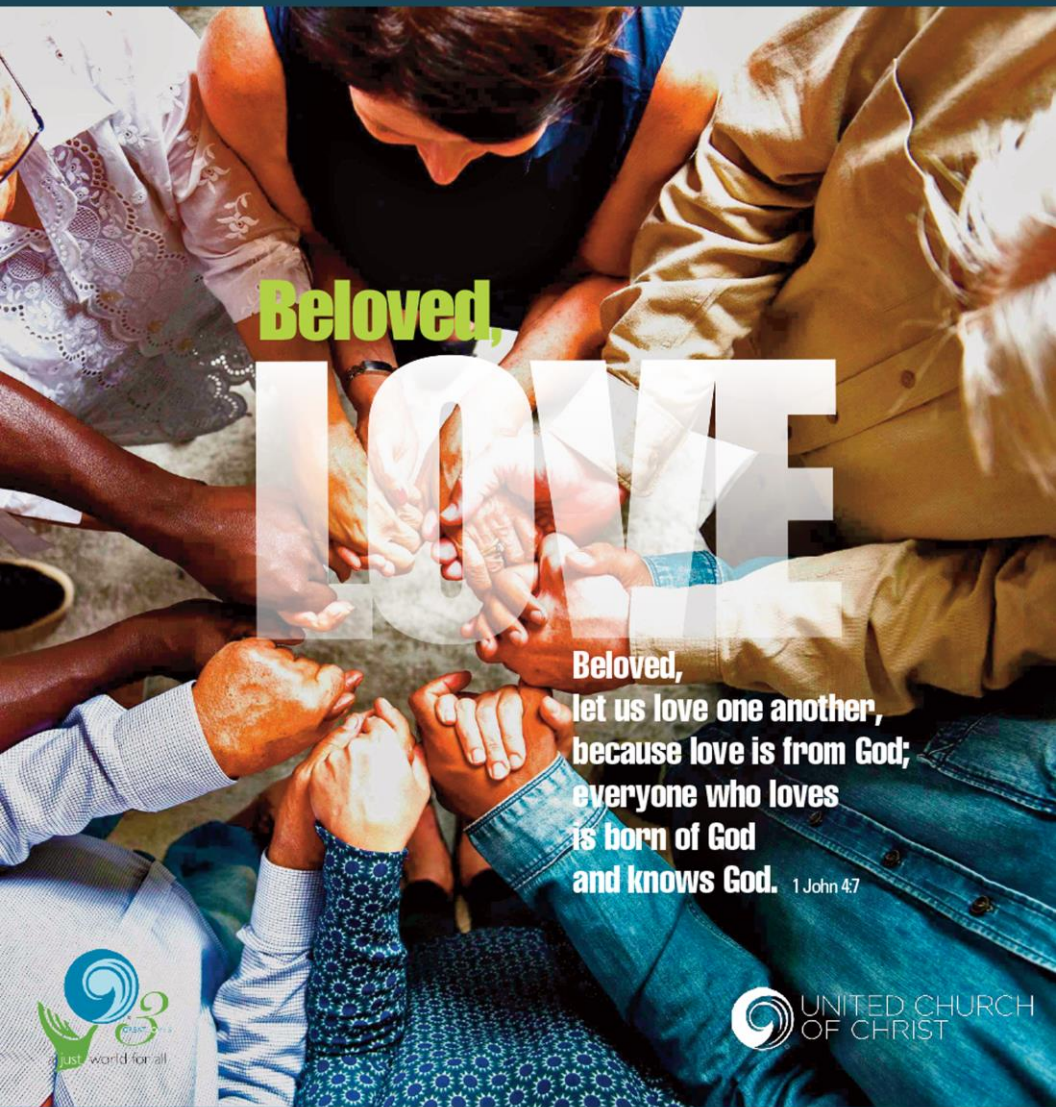


# Consecration Sunday



Beloved,

LOVE

Beloved,  
let us love one another,  
because love is from God;  
everyone who loves  
is born of God  
and knows God. 1 John 4:7



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST



PARKWAY  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 15, 2020



[www.parkwayucc.org](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

Sunday, November 15, 2020

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## Contents

- 3 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 11 Announcements
- 16 Prayer List

## Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

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### 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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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](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

**Communications Requests:** Please use the form at [www.parkwayucc.org/communications](http://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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## Wedding Anniversaries

- 11/15 RUNTZ, Joe & Naomi (68)  
11/21 HERBERG, Mona & Dan (9)  
11/21 LARSON, Skip & Ellie (61)  
11/21 OSBORNE, John & Brandi (22)  
11/21 ROGERS, Mike & Gerry (44)

## Birthdays

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 11/15 POLSTER, Stephanie | 11/18 SCHMELIG, Greg |
| 11/17 PENICO, Steve      | 11/20 LIVENGOOD, Kim |
| 11/17 TOSSING, Linda     | 11/21 PENICO, Ella   |
| 11/18 RUSSELL, John      | 11/21 WILBOIS, Carol |

# Consecration Sunday

**Meditation** *When folks cite scripture to prove a point, a modicum of intellectual honesty would cite this as their own personal opinion, not an empirical truth. I think the vast majority simply resorts to rote regurgitation of what they've been taught, reducing themselves to spiritual parrots. Bottom line — there is no such thing as doctrinal purity or flawless hermeneutics; it's all situational. And true exegesis is a myth; it's all eisegesis. You shouldn't need a ThD to interpret what God has to say to humanity. I don't believe God will hold us accountable to the contents of the book that few can agree upon. And I'm glad about it. ~Derrick Day*

**Welcome** 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** *What A Friend We Have in Jesus (Israel, Israel, God is Calling)*—arr. Jason Tonioli

## Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

**Welcome Song** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*



1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur - round Thee, Earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
3. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus Which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.  
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
Love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, Join - ing all in heav - en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; Drive the gloom of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flower - y mea - dow, flash - ing sea,  
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward In the tri - umph song of life.



## Scripture Psalm 1:1-3

How blessed is the one who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on God's law they meditate day and night. They will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season. And its leaf does not wither; and in whatever they do, they prosper.

## Call to Worship based on Psalm 126

One:	We gather to worship with expectations: God revealed in new and astonishing ways.
Many:	<b>God comes to us in real time. God comes to us in dreams.</b>
One:	Sometimes God's presence is hard to take in—difficult to believe.
Many:	<b>O God, we long to believe. Help our unbelief!</b>
One:	God is present here. God is deep within us—and all around us.
All:	<b>We are eager to experience God now—Creator, Christ and Spirit.</b>

## Song *We Are Called*



- |          |                     |                |
|----------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Come! | Live in the light!  | Shine with the |
| 2. Come! | O - pen your heart! | Show your      |
| 3. Sing! | Sing a new song!    | Sing of that   |



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called \_\_\_\_ to be  
mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called \_\_\_\_ to be  
great day when all will be one! God will reign, \_\_\_\_ and we'll

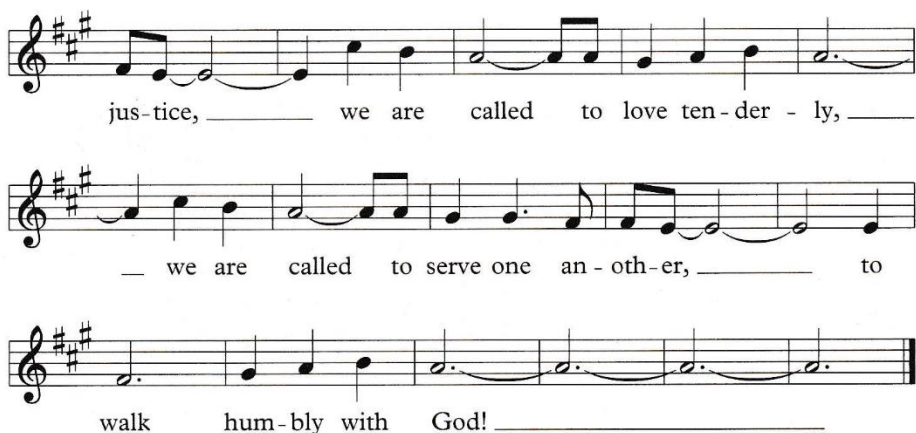


light for the king-dom, to live in the free-dom of the  
hope for the hope-less so all ha-tred and blind-ness will  
walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and broth-ers u -

### Refrain



cit-y of God! \_\_\_\_  
be no more! \_\_\_\_ We are called to act with  
nit-ed in love! \_\_\_\_



## Opening Prayer Craig Mitchell

One:	We bring who we truly are.
Many:	<b>To the God of life, we bring ourselves... some weary, some energetic, some contented, some disquieted</b>
One:	We bring who we truly are.
Many:	<b>To the God of truth, we bring ourselves... some trusting, some doubting our supposed certainties</b>
One:	We bring who we truly are.
Many:	<b>To the God of light, we bring ourselves... our achievements, our failures, our public selves, our hidden selves</b>
One:	We bring who we truly are.
Many:	<b>To the God of hope, we bring ourselves... our dreams and visions, our despair, our yearnings</b>
One:	We bring who we truly are.
Many:	<b>To the God of all Creation, let us bring ourselves - whether broken or blessed or in between... for we are made in God's image and loved beyond measure</b>
One:	We bring who we truly are.
All:	<b>Let us worship and be open to God's light and life among us now and as we go from here later. Amen.</b>

## 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** 1Corinthians 13:12-13

Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

**Song** *Wonderful Words of Life*



1 Sing them o - ver a - gain to me, won-der-ful words of life;  
2 Christ, the bless-ed one, gives to all won-der-ful words of life;  
3 Sweet-ly ech - o the gos - pel call, won-der-ful words of life;



let me more of their beau - ty see, won-der-ful words of life;  
sin - ner, wake to the lov - ing call, won-der-ful words of life;  
of - fer par-don and peace to all, won-der-ful words of life;



Words of life and beau - ty teach me faith and du - ty.  
All so free - ly giv - en, our sure hope of heav - en.  
Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, keep me with you for - ev - er.

*Refrain*



Beau-ti - ful words, won-der-ful words, won-der-ful words of life.



Beau-ti - ful words, won-der-ful words, won-der-ful words of life.

**Message**

# A Time of 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. \_\_\_\_\_ Do not be a - afraid, I am  
 live! \_\_\_\_\_



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

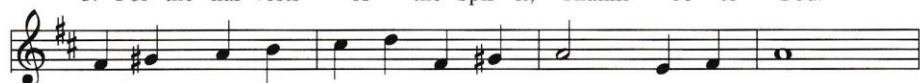
**Our** [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine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



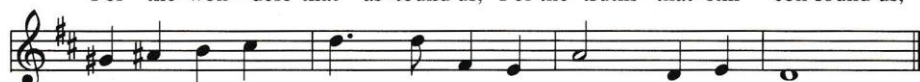
1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
3. For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, Thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will be done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,  
In our world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,  
For the won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.  
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will be done.  
Most of all that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

## Offering Our Gifts to God

*I Will Sing of Your Love Love Love*—Christopher Grundy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AUyjdGNIYH4>

I will sing of your love, love, love; of your steadfast love for as long as I live  
and I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

I will sing of a love so wide that it welcomes the neighbor  
and will not divide

and I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

I will sing, "Let the children come. Do not hinder them,"

for you love every one,

and I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

I will sing of the trees so tall of the oceans so deep and your love for them all  
and I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

Descant: Your love is stronger than the mountains;  
soaks through me like the pouring rain.

It's no wonder that I'm answering your call.

Whenever someone needs a neighbor  
and wherever there's a child in pain  
we'll be working on a just world for all.

## Dedication of Pledges for Mission & Ministry 2021

### Song of Parting *Lead Me, Guide Me*

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,  
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

## Benediction

### God's Light Goes Forth

**Music for Going Forth** *On What Has Now Been Sown [Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>]*—Organ improvisations on the hymn tune by John Darwall (1770)

++

## Announcements

# Announcements

## TODAY! Parkway UCC Consecration Sunday

Just a reminder that Consecration Sunday for the Stewardship pledge campaign is today November 15, 2020. If you didn't receive your pledge card and letter, call Harold Cobb at 965-4147 or Amy Yakel at 275-8039. You may also submit an electronic pledge card from our website: <https://parkwayucc.org/giving/pledge/>

Thank you for your continuing support of Parkway United Church of Christ.

LOVE  
Beloved,

### Parkway UCC 2021 Pledge

General Ministries\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Includes Missions

Building Fund \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you plan to give?

- ☐ Weekly  
☐ Monthly  
☐ Quarterly  
☐ Annually

My Total 2021 Giving: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Keep for your Records

General Ministries \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total 2021 Giving: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Beloved,  
let us love one another,  
because love is from God;  
everyone who loves  
is born of God  
and knows God. 1 John 4:7



### Frequency:

☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

## Circle of Concern Thanksgiving Baskets due TODAY, Nov 15

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.

### Each box will contain:

*can of pumpkin*

*corn bread mix*

*jar of turkey gravy*

*stuffing mix*

*canned fruit*

*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, Parkway family. Take good care! ~Lana Biondo

## **TODAY! Parkway Speaker Series: Sailing the Inland Seas and the Story of the Edmund Fitzgerald**

Sunday, November 8 and 15 | 11:15 am | via Zoom

While a college student, Parkway member John Dwyer worked in the summers as a merchant seaman on Great Lakes “ore boats.” This included a summer on the Edmund Fitzgerald, which on November 10, 1975 was lost during a ferocious storm on Lake Superior. Today in the second presentation John tells the story of the storm that took down the “Fitz,” the disappearance, and the efforts to solve the mystery of its sinking.

### **Join with video:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84898581439?pwd=V1JhZXNod1JSTjVJcm1QYWWhOck9JQT09>

**Join by phone:** 312-626-6799 | **Meeting ID:** 848 9858 1439 | **Passcode:** 256973

## **Join Us for Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue (TAD)**

1st & 3rd Tuesdays beginning 11/17 | 2:00-3:00pm | via ZOOM

TED has a new sibling! Introducing TAD, Tuesday afternoon Dialogue, a Zoom book discussion group. Everyone is welcome. We are meeting the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, starting November 17<sup>th</sup>. The book we have selected is *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope* by Anne Lamott—an exploration of hope and the place it holds in our lives. Copies are available through local bookstores, Amazon, and local libraries. On our first meeting we will discuss the Prelude and the first two chapters. We look forward to this new adventure, and hope to see you on Zoom. Questions or comments? contact Gerry Rogers: [gcr123055@gmail.com](mailto:gcr123055@gmail.com) or Jackie Eiffert: [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com)

### **Video:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWw4yZUYwUT09>

**Join by phone:** 312 626 6799 | **Meeting ID:** 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007

## **CROP Walk**

The results of the St Louis Metro Crop Hunger Walk have been tabulated. The St Louis Walk raised \$20,415.00 this year. The goal set for us by Church World Service was \$16,000.00 In this year of Covid and the virtual walk we far exceeded our goal. Parkway's contribution was \$3100.00.

THANK YOU PARKWAY. Donations are still accepted on the website [www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo) through Giving Tuesday, December 1, Due to the pandemic, we did not offer tee shirts this year. However, Church World Service has tee shirts for purchase. The website is [www.crophungerwalk.org](http://www.crophungerwalk.org).

Click resources and an apparel box will appear. You can then order apparel. Thanks to all who donated, walked virtually and supported feeding the hungry ...Your Crop Team, Mike and Gerry Rogers, Pam Manning, Sue Moellering

## **Alzheimer's News** *November is National Family Caregivers Month!*

83% of the help provided to older adults in the United States comes from family members, friends or other unpaid caregivers. Nearly half of all caregivers who provide help to older adults do so for someone living with Alzheimer's or another dementia.

Who are the caregivers?

- About one in three caregivers (30%) is age 65 or older.
- Approximately two-thirds of caregivers are women; more specifically, over one-third of dementia caregivers are daughters.
- Most caregivers (66%) live with the person with dementia in the community.
- Approximately one-quarter of dementia caregivers are “sandwich generation” caregivers — meaning that they care not only for an aging parent, but also for children under age 18.

Alzheimer's takes a devastating toll on caregivers. Compared with caregivers of people without dementia, twice as many caregivers of those with dementia indicate substantial emotional, financial and physical difficulties. Of the total lifetime cost of caring for someone with dementia, 70% is borne by families — either through out-of-pocket health and long-term care expenses or from the value of unpaid care.

For more information the Alzheimer's Helpline is accessible 24/7 via 800-272-3900 and staffed by master's level clinicians to assist with crisis situations, decision making, and disease information. You can find virtual dementia caregiver resources online at [alz.org/covid19help](https://alz.org/covid19help). Tools and support are also available in Spanish.

### **A Prayer for Caregivers**

Lord, help me remember I am doing your work. Help me to clothe myself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and love. Help me to live out and embody the fruit of the Spirit showing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Enable me to see them through your eyes.

Help me to have compassion as you did and to follow your example.

Ease my burden and provide times of rest and refreshment.

Give me the energy necessary to fulfill my tasks.

Grant me the strength and extra grace to be able to handle things I might not normally be able to handle.

Help me not to lose my joy and give me moments of laughter.

In moments of frustration help me to be slow to anger and to refrain from letting any anger or frustration give a foothold to the devil or lead to any sin.

Comfort me as I mourn what I have lost.

Fill me up with your love so that I'm so full that your love overflows out of me—I do not have the sufficiency to pour this out of my own supply so I need YOUR supply.

Thank you for supplying all of my needs.

Help me to just be your conduit and means through which you work and help me to remember that it's you THROUGH me.

Thank you for trusting me with this role of caring for another.





## Beloved, Love in Action

***“Do your little bit of good where you are. It’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”*** — Archbishop Desmond Tutu

**L**ove is a verb. Not simply a feeling or thought. Grounded in God’s love for us, we are called to act, to love. 1 John 4:11 puts it this way, “Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.” We take seemingly small actions to live out God’s love. Here’s the beautiful thing: together in community, we can change the world.

In 2019, Magnolia United Church of Christ in Seattle, WA, held its inaugural Community in Action Sunday. Determining that ‘church in action’ was a key to their vitality, instead of holding church worship as on a typical Sunday, they were love in action. Participating in five diverse service projects, the congregants restored habitat at a local park, made blankets for children, helped at their local animal shelter, tended an elder garden at the Native American cultural center, and cleaned up and cleared brush at a homeless encampment.

While average worship attendance runs about 50, that Sunday, over 150 people took part.



After participating in their service projects, the congregants gathered. The Reverend Marci Scott-Weis, Magnolia UCC minister, commented on her service: “It was messy, chaotic, oozing in vitality and a whole lot of fun to be the church that morning.” She continued, “one girl said to me, ‘That was so much fun, can we do church every week like this?’”

With such positive responses, Magnolia UCC held its second annual Community in 2020. “It was such an amazing morning seeing folks from our congregation and from our community join together to help our neighbors,” Scott-Weis said. “It was fun, crazy busy, church at its best.”

How can you put your love into action? Who would want to join you in that work? How can you have fun doing it? Love is a verb indeed. Our church can be God’s love through our serving and giving. Can you pledge to take part and live God’s love?

## 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 November 11

## Celebrations

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

**The momentum toward justice and equity.**

**Nathaniel Doty** - his compassionate & costly support of another runner

[https://www.stltoday.com/sports/high-school/boys-cross-country/lutheran-st-charles-boys-finish-as-class-3-runner-up-for-first-team-trophy/article\\_598d9496-1fbe-11eb-ad2a-b376f9285fdf.html](https://www.stltoday.com/sports/high-school/boys-cross-country/lutheran-st-charles-boys-finish-as-class-3-runner-up-for-first-team-trophy/article_598d9496-1fbe-11eb-ad2a-b376f9285fdf.html)

**Veterans Day**

## Concerns

**Bob Boyd and family** - as they grieve and give thanks for Karen who died at home - surrounded by family and friends. A celebration of her life will take place virtually.

**Claire Stolze** - collegian just tested positive for Covid-19.

**Mary and Jenna Watson** - tested positive for Covid-19; Julia negative.

**Roseann D & Carol C** - COVID; Roseann hospitalized (Bum-Cam).

**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](mailto: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.**

**Those affected by natural disasters yesterday/today/tomorrow**

## Continuing

**Pinky Wilcoxon** - home after a few days in the hospital last week.

**Sally Boughman** - recuperating at home after recent hip replacement.

**Nate Goldstein and Family** – healing from his recent surgery.

**Bill Haack and family** - grieving/giving thanks for his father.

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

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

**Burt** - rehab facility for a couple of weeks (Mona Herberg's brother).

**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 - those continuing, starting, returning to leadership... including **Biden|Harris**.

**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 November 15 - St. Thomas UCC, Chesterfield; stthomasucc.org

Week ending November 22 - Trinity UCC, St Louis; trinityuccstl.org

## A Blessing

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now, says the LORD, the one who created you, Jacob, the one who formed you, Israel: Don't fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; when through the rivers, they won't sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you won't be scorched and flame won't burn you.

I am the LORD your God, the holy one of Israel, your savior.

I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place.

Because you are precious in my eyes, you are honored, and I love you.

I give people in your place, and nations in exchange for your life.

Don't fear, I am with you. From the east I'll bring your children; from the west I'll gather you. I'll say to the north, "Give them back!" and to the south, "Don't detain them." Bring my sons from far away, and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name and whom I created for my glory, whom I have formed and made.

## Scripture That Can Soothe

### **Joshua 1:9**

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

### **Isaiah 41:10**

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

### **Deuteronomy 31:6**

"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

### **Zephaniah 3:17**

"The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love."

### **Matthew 28:20**

"Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

### **Romans 8:38-39**

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

### **Luke 2:10**

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

### **Isaiah 43:2**

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

### **Proverbs 3:5**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding."

### **Psalms 16:8**

"I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken."

### **Romans 15:13**

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

### **1 Corinthians 16:13**

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

### **James 1:2-3**

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."



**Hebrews 6:19**

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

**2 Timothy 1:7**

"For the spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline."

**Isaiah 46:4**

"I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

**John 16:22**

Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

**Matthew 11:28-30**

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

**Isaiah 40:1-5**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

**John 14:26-27**

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom God will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

**Psalms 27:1**

"The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?"

**Isaiah 41:13**

"For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you."

**Psalms 23**

The LORD is my shepherd. I lack nothing. He lets me rest in grassy meadows; he leads me to restful waters; he keeps me alive. He guides me in proper paths for the sake of his good name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no danger because you are with me. Your rod and your staff—they protect me. You set a table for me—right in front of my enemies. You bathe my head in oil; my cup is so full it spills over! Yes, goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the LORD's house as long as I live.

# 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday *after* Pentecost

November 15, 2020

## Extravagant Opportunity

Matthew 25:14-30

The one who was given much uses what he is given to make an even greater amount. The one who was given a moderate amount returned a moderate amount. The one who began with very little...wait for it...ended up with very little. Sometimes the parables can be hard to relate to in our modern context, but this one seems very familiar. Maybe the one who was given much really was smarter or more faithful. Or, maybe he just got better advice.

We all need supportive peers, wise mentors and the still small voice that is heard in our own prayer practice. In the parable, we don't know how the servants made the decisions they did. We don't learn who was advising them. But we do know the kind of support that is available to United Church of Christ ministers at many places along their career path.

United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance (UCBMA), the philanthropic arm of the Pension Boards-United Church of Christ, operates with a covenantal spirit as it:

- provides direct financial support and compassionate responses to authorized ministers, lay church employees, and their surviving spouses/partners, in times of urgent need and personal crises
- administers and raises funds for leadership initiatives that promote faithful and fruitful ministry across the United Church of Christ

Through the Minister's Financial Vitality Initiative, Next Generation Leadership Initiative, CREDO and the Annuitant Visitor Program, the UCBMA is a financial partner and perhaps more importantly a compassionate supporter to pastors and their spouses. From providing peer mentoring and education to young pastors with promise, or financial aid for the widows of long-serving pastors, the UCBMA is available to help and support ministers wherever they are on life's journey.

To find out how you can support those who are supporting ministers and more about the work of the UCBMA please visit <http://www.pbucc.org/index.php/art-ma-landing>.