Second Sunday in Lent





www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, February 28, 2021

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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

2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131 | 314-872-9330 [p] | 314-872-9014 [f] parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org Office Hours: Mon - Thu 8:30am-3:00pm; Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

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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.

Pledge Campaign for our Mission & Ministry 2021

We are still accepting pledges: https://parkwayucc.org/giving/pledge/ Thank you for your continuing support of Parkway United Church of Christ.

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3/3 YAKEL, Doug & Amy (31) 3/6 PILLAI, Janie & Anil (17)

Birthdays

- 2/28 WADDELL, Alek
 - 3/1 HAACK, Bill
 - 3/2 LARSON, Ellie
 - 3/3 CLIFFORD, Carol

- 3/3 HERPEL, Marvin
- 3/3 POUNDS, Melissa
- 3/4 CARTER, Deborah
- 3/6 WOODSON, Connor

Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 28, 2021 | 10:00am | Facebook Live

Meditations Criss Jami

~Old words are reborn with new faces.

~Pride and power fall when the person falls, but discoveries of truth form legacies that can be built upon for generations.

~Those who stand for different causes during different generations often experience the same oppositions and the same difficulties as those of the previous and the next generations. That is the basis of history repeating itself.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Prelude Etude in A Minor-O. Ravanello

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Scripture Psalm 22:23-31 (CEB – Common English Bible)

All of you who revere God—praise God! All of you who are Jacob's descendants—honor God! All of you who are all Israel's offspring—stand in awe of God! Because God didn't despise or detest the suffering of the one who suffered—God didn't hide God's face from me. No, God listened when I cried out for help.

I offer praise in the great congregation because of you; I will fulfill my promises in the presence of those who honor God.

Let all those who are suffering eat and be full! Let all who seek God, praise God! I pray your hearts live forever! Every part of the earth will remember and come back to the LORD; every family among all the nations will worship you.

Because the right to rule belongs to the LORD. God rules all nations. Indeed, all the earth's powerful will worship; all who are descending to the dust will kneel before God; my being also lives for God. Future descendants will serve God; generations to come will be told about my Lord. They will proclaim God's righteousness to those not yet born, telling them what God has done.

Call to Worship John O'Donohue

	Joini O Dononue
One:	May the touch of your skin register the beauty of the otherness that surrounds you.
Many:	May our listening be attuned to the deeper silence where sound is honed to bring distance home.
One:	May the fragrance of a breathing meadow refresh your heart and remind you that you are a child of the earth.
Many:	When we partake of food and drink, may our taste quicken to the gift and sweetness that flows from the earth.
One:	May your inner eye see through the surfaces and glean the real presence of everything that meets you.
All:	May our souls beautify the desire of our eyes - that we might glimpse the infinity that hides in the simple sights that seem worn to our usual eyes.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Lenten Candles

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 watch and listen to Jesus this Lenten season. We do so with the expectation that we will be inspired to follow him and echo his words and actions. We pay particular attention to our hands that wipe tears; make music; tremble; prepare foods; struggle with carpal tunnel or arthritis; applaud and lift others up; hold other hands and embrace; sometimes do harm; wash feet; build and repair; touch the earth gently; strain in handcuffs; wring amid nail biting; write letters and make calls; sting from splinters and papercuts; engage in hand-offs, handouts and hand-medowns; clench in fists; draw-sculpt-carve-paint-stitch-weave; swat; pray; commit to being open and available. Amen.

Response Put Peace into Each Other's Hands—Fred Kaan Tune: St Columbia, Irish Traditional Melody—With Joy Draw Water; Immortal Love; Mother of All

Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it; protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectation; be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.

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

Blessing the Children Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands le - sus' hands were all. Heal - ing pain and kind hands. do - ing good to Make them strong and Take my hands, Lord le - sus, let them work for you. 9 0 bless - ing Wash - ing tir - ed feet and sick - ness, child - ren small. gen - tle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Je - sus, 0 θ 40 $\overline{\mathbf{o}}$ all. sav-ing those who fall. le - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to till I'm gen - tle Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you. too.

Scripture Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version) When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'







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.]

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

Offering Our Gifts to God *Evening Meditation*—A. Schreiner

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 Quentin Chin

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that you have given us, O God. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. We give away generously, in this offering, to bless your church, your people, your creation. Amen.



Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth Postlude in A Minor—Ch. H. Rinck

Announcements

Announcements

TODAY: Speaker Series

It's not just a slogan! BLACK LIVES really do matter by John

Russell Sunday, February 28 | 11:15am | via Zoom

John Russell is passionate about science. With equal passion, he now offers his insights on race relations and the Black Lives Matter movement. Hear the answer to the question, "Why just focus on black lives; don't all lives matter?" Come prepared to be uncomfortable, even if you are sure that you don't have a racist bone in your body.

Contact Richard Scherrer: 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Video: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84898581439?pwd=V1JhZXNod1JSTjVJcm1Q YWhOck9JQT09

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

Next Week: Speaker Series

I Work for Bill Gates featuring Dan Livengood

Sunday, March 7 | 11:15am | via Zoom

Dan, a Parkway member, since his birth. has a PhD from MIT. His awardwinning dissertation was recognized for its "potential for dramatic reduction in energy consumption." He now works on climate change issues for a Gate's not-for-profit, not just studying the topic, but actually implementing solutions. Among other things, Dan will report on Mr. Gates' latest book on climate change, scheduled to be published in February of 2021.

Contact Richard Scherrer: 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Video: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84898581439?pwd=V1JhZXNod1JSTjVJcm1Q YWhOck9JQT09

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

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue NEW BOOK

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 2:00pm | via ZOOM

Please join us on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, as we begin a new book by Trevor Noah, Born a Crime: Stories of a South African Childhood. We will discuss Section 1, pages 1 - 111. Are you new to book groups or new to Parkway? We'd love to have you. Brew a cup of tea and join us. Sue Moellering will facilitate the discussion for this book. Questions? Contact Jackie, jeiffert2@gmail.com or Gerry, gcr123055@gmail.com

Video: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMIU4ay9oNndT WW4yZUYwUT09

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue 3/9

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

Please join us on March 9 for our second session to discuss The Sword and the Shield by Peniel Joseph. We will be covering pages 100 -199. This book is a dual biography of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King. The author tells the story of each man's identity and how their ideas shaped America and the struggle for racial equality. This provides us as readers with a deeper understanding of the history of the Civil Rights Movement and the foundation for Black Lives Matter.

We will start the Zoom session at 6:45 for time to visit and catch up with each other before we start the book discussion at 7 pm.

Video: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86172300024?pwd=bFdGQ0xKRHFGTnZXM0k yRC9FdDZGQT09;

Meeting ID: 861 7230 0024 | (312) 626 6799 US | Passcode: 13607034

Absolutely Fearless: The Life of Raymond H. Littge, Missouri's Top Scoring WWII Fighter Pilot Ace

A biography based on research materials, military records, interviews with family and diaries of his sister, Altheda Littge Schmelig (Grandmother of Greg Schmelig). The 352nd Fighter Group (aka Blue Nosed Bastards of Bodney), was one of the most decorated fighter groups of WWII. It produced many aces, including Raymond H. Littge. This book tells the story of Ray's short life, focusing on his years as a P-51 Mustang pilot in WWII. This book is dedicated to our family and to all who served. ~Greg Schmelig [All profits go to the Lutheran Heritage Center and Museum in Altenburg, Missouri.]

Available from Amazon.com. In search bar, type:

Absolutely Fearless by Kathy Evans (for black and white version) **OR** Absolutely Fearless by Kathy Evans – color (for 30% color photos version)

Sign the Petition for Alex to Stay in the US

This came from the Central Reform Congregation *Tikkun Olam* Group. It concerns Alex Garcia who has been living in 'Sanctuary' at Christ Church UCC in Maplewood for a few years – to keep him from being deported. His wife and children are all American citizens and are here. Please consider signing this petition if you have not already:

https://ifcla.salsalabs.org/100kpetition/index.html

Gateway 10th Annual ONA Convocation

Saturday, March 6 | 9:00am-3:00pm | via Zoom Welcome! 2021 marks the 10th Annual Open and Affirming Convocation. Like so many other events, this year's Convocation will be different from in the past, pivoting to an on-line Zoom event.

Hosted by: Gateway Open & Affirming - St. Louis Heartland Open & Affirming Coalitions - Kansas City https://www.eventbrite.com/e/open-and-affirming-convocation-tickets-138541004875. Link to be provided once tickets are purchased.

2nd Mile Lent & Easter 2021

Go the 2nd Mile with us!

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 local, national and international impact with its gifts. Please remember that Second Mile Giving is over and above 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 www.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 delivery 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 in 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 at Eden as it remains committed to educating faithful and effective leaders for church and society. The seminary counts among its distinguished graduates Reinhold Niebuhr, 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 and Easter. Thank you for your generosity for people near and far.

Lenten Poem by Ann Weems

Lent is a time to take time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us, a time to let the events get up and walk around in us. a time to intensify our living unto Christ, a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts, a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and listen to his Word. a time to touch his robe and feel the healing surge through us, a time to ponder and a time to wonder.... Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God! Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think. for thoughts come unbidden. Perhaps we're afraid to face our future knowing our past. Give us courage, O God, to hear your Word and to read our living into it. Give us the trust to know we're forgiven and give us the faith to take up our lives and walk.

Prayer List as of February 24, 2021

Celebrations

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far! Black History Month. The Journey of Lent.

The Schulenburgs as they welcome granddaughter *Mia*. **The Ruzickas** as they welcome granddaughter *Lucille Grace*.

Concerns

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 Mary Ann Musial - renewing fight with cancer (Larson/Prendergast). Brian - on way to OH for double lung transplant – COVID (Tossing). People rebounding from severe winter weather in TX and elsewhere.

Continuing

Jim & Polly Winkelmann - he is home healing after a stroke... 1504 Wolf Trail Rd; Wildwood, MO 63021; 314-610-3348 (Jim's cell). Cherie & Mike Stolze - her health; her father's kidney disease. Lori Connors - for strength, stamina through health challenges. Ruth Peace & Pinky Wilcoxen - PUCC sisters with health challenges. Bill Darland - ongoing health issues. Audrey and John Nourse - as she finds healing and strength. Anne Brodginski - nearing the end of her life (Svenson). Nelson Spencer - failing heart valve he received years ago (Svenson). Carolyn & Hank Kraichley - serious health challenges (McKenzie). Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life. Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability (McKenzie). Grateful Tran - half-way house, new skills, schizophrenia (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]
Sue Houser - Bethany Ctr for Rehab & Healing; 421 Ocala Dr - #209B; Nashville, TN 37211; 615-577-2049. [birthdate: July 8]

Other

Pres Biden, VP Harris, Congress, all local, national, world leaders. **The "me too" Movement** - shining a light on sexual abuse. **All people who live with mental illness.**

Individuals in all levels of leadership as they make decisions today. PUCC Family (and others) struggling with healthcare costs and limits. Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC Healing of relationships between the public and the police. 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. Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen.

The people of politically unstable countries across globe.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending February 28 - Eden UCC, Affton; edenucc.org *Week ending March 7* - Epiphany UCC, St. Louis; epiphanyucc.org

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Lenten Haiku

Roger Lynn

the world weighs heavy our brokenness wearies us and yet God is here

shadows threaten us darkness presses on all sides God's light continues

we hunger and thirst longing to be satisfied abundance is here

life comes as a gift whether we notice or not it's time to rejoice

having received we freely share what we have God's abundant life

God's love shining through filling our lives and our world our response is praise

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Always Close

Psalm 22:23-31 Seminary Sunday Church Vocations Sunday

Do you feel that you are called to ministry, but are unable due to time or finances to receive a traditional theological education? Take a look at the PATHWAYS program. According to their website (<u>https://www.pathwaystheological.org/</u>), "PATHWAYS offers you a program for progressive theological engagement that values the past without being limited by it, moving intentionally into the present while looking boldly towards the future. We provide a welcoming online space to bring your questions, doubts, and desire to deepen your understanding...Whether you are on the path to authorized ministry, want to hone your current skills, or just want to explore your faith more deeply, we have a program for you.

PATHWAYS welcomes students from a wide variety of denominational and faith backgrounds. PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc., is a registered independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It began as a program of the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC). PATHWAYS continues to be affiliated with the Southeast Conference, works with UCC participants across the nation, and is a respected member of the Regional Theological Education Consortium. Participants also come to us from several other denominations and from non-denominational communities.

PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc. exists to offer a range of stimulating, accessible, and affordable online progressive Christian resources for church leaders, faith explorers, pastors, and those discerning various vocations and callings within and outside the church community.

PATHWAYS staff members work with representatives from Conferences and Associations to support the educational needs of UCC Members in Discernment (MID) pursuing an alternative pathway to ministry.

As part of the UCC's vision for multiple pathways to authorization, the entire PATHWAYS program of thirty plus courses can be used as an alternative route to fulfill the academic requirements for becoming an authorized minister."

To find out if PATHWAYS might be right for you, visit <u>pathwaystheological.org</u>