Third Sunday in Lent





www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, March 7, 2021

Contents

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

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

Linda Tossing, *President of the Church Council* [puccpresident@parkwayucc.org] Kevin Cameron, *Pastor* [kevin@parkwayucc.org] Barb Kuhlmann, *Director of Christian Education/Youth* [barbk@parkwayucc.org] Barry Luedloff, *Music Director* [barry@parkwayucc.org] Mona Smith Herberg, *Office Administrator* [mona@parkwayucc.org] Kathy Ferrell, *Office Assistant* [kathy@parkwayucc.org] Rich Race, *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org] Dawn Friedmann, *Bookkeeper* [dawn@parkwayucc.org] Julie Connors, *Nursery* [juliest11992@yahoo.com] Emma Pennycuick, *Nursery* [epennycuick1@live.maryville.edu] Joyce Ruiz, *Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador* [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com] Polly Rutherford, *Environmental Justice/Sustainability Seekers* [pollyrutherford@gmail.com] 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.

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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3/13 MUCHNICK, Melanie & Todd (28)

Birthdays

- 3/7 SPERRY, Doug
- 3/8 DOWNING, Jeff
- 3/8 KLEIN, William
- 3/11 TALLYN, Jameson

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 7, 2021 | 10:00am | YouTube

Meditation There seems to be a constant sway within the Church as to what type of person we believe Jesus to be on an emotional level. Some generations remove all forms of physical and vocal aggression displayed in the Biblical text and preach a 'forgive and forget' type of Messiah that was always ready to turn the other cheek. Other generations overlook his passion and love by focusing on Him as merely a prominent 'turn or burn' preacher concerning eternal punishment for sinners. These two popular opinions fluctuate as the years come and go. ~Rick Sorensen

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 Breath of God—Alan Stein https://youtu.be/mI_8RLvxdxI

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song As the Pauper Waits for Plenty Tune: #314 Like The Murmur of the Dove's Song

As the pauper waits for plenty, as the weeping wait for mirth, As a farmer waits for harvest and a woman waits for birth, So do I wait for you.

As the blossom longs for springtime and the seed, a fertile place, As an orphan longs for family and child, his mother's face, So do I long for you.

As a songbird waits for morning and an eaglet waits for flight, As a flutist waits for music and an artist waits for light, So do I wait for you.

As the homeless long for shelter and the weary, for a bed, As the thirsty long for water and the hungry long for bread, So do I long for you. So do you long for me.

Scripture Psalm 19—The Psalter: A Faithful and Inclusive Rendering The heavens are telling the glory of God and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork. One day pours out its song to another and one night unfolds knowledge to another. They have neither speech nor language and their voices are not heard, Yet their sound has gone out into all lands and their words to the ends of the world. In them God has set a tabernacle for the sun, that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber and rejoices as a champion to run her course. It goes forth from the end of the heavens and runs to the very end again, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb. By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.

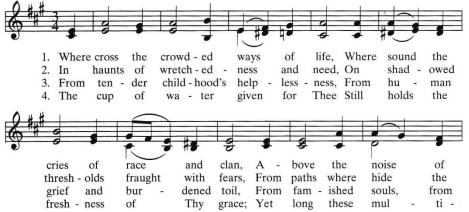
Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults! Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Call to Worship Micah 6:8

All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.
Many:	and with one another.
One:	and to walk humbly with our God
Many:	To love kindness,
One:	To do justice,
Many:	What does the Lord require of us?
One:	God has told you, O mortal, what is good.

Song Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life [v1, 4-6]





- O Master, from the mountainside, Make haste to heal these hearts of pain; Among these restless throngs abide, O tread the city's streets again;
- Till all the world shall learn Thy love, And follow where Thy feet have trod; Till glorious from Thy heaven above Shall come the city of our God.

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 Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world. All the shades from dark to light, They are precious in his sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Mission Moment 2nd Mile Lent/Easter Sue Moellering Heifer Project | Lydia's House | Unleashing Potential | Eden Seminary

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory *The Language of God*—United Church of Christ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZAQ2hpQoo&list=PL6VgfHt6zEy4KNkAloQlKZ7BTv2CZldET&index=2

Response Help Us Accept Each Other [v4]



Prayer of Dedication

God of all grace, we can never outgive you. As we share our financial gifts, help us to also use the spiritual gifts you have given us. We thank you for giving each of us the power and tenderness of your Spirit for the common good. To each of us, you have given different gifts to serve you and your church—to build each other up and to strengthen community. May we serve you and one another with our generous attitudes and our gracious gifts. Amen.

Scripture John 2:13-22 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the moneychangers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that Jesus had spoken.

Song When Christ Went to the Temple (tune: Lead On, O King Eternal) When Christ went to the Temple to worship God one day, He entered through the courtyard where anyone could pray. That court was for the nations—and all could enter in. But Jesus found a market, a shameful robbers' den.

There, cattle, sheep and pigeons were sold for sacrifice, And moneychangers shouted of quality and price. Outsiders could not enter the inner courts for prayer. Their only place to worship was in the courtyard there.

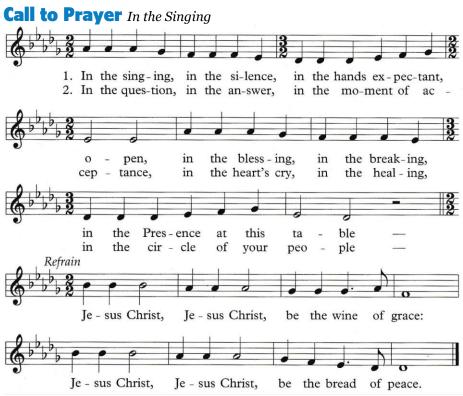
When prayer gave way to profit, and pride closed many doors, The Lord cried out in anger and made a whip of cords. He shooed the sheep and cattle and scattered pigeons, too. God's house was for all people — not for a chosen few.

O God, you love the nations and call us all to pray. Forgive us when our worship turns other folk away. As Christ, in loving protest, fought prejudice and pride, May we who follow Jesus now welcome all inside.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Invitation to the Communion Table We invite all to this open table. All accepted—no exceptions—as we commit ourselves to limitless love, courageous action and spirited inquiry.



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.]

Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you, Generous God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your grace through our words and actions. Amen.

Song of Parting God of Grace and God of Glory [v1, 3, 4]



Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth Improvisations on Holy Manna

Announcements

Announcements

TODAY: Speaker Series

Breakthrough Energy Sciences featuring Dan Livengood

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

Dan, a Parkway member, since his birth. has a PhD from MIT. Did you catch the 60 Minutes segment "Bill Gates 3.0" on Sunday, February 14? Former PUCC member, Dan Livengood, is an employee of Gates' Breakthrough Energy. Dan is part of the Breakthrough Energy Sciences Grid Modeling team. Don't worry, Dan won't overwhelm us with advanced simulation terms. Instead, he will provide some insight into the "people energy" being directed toward a climate change goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

You will want to see and hear this presentation, so be sure to join by video!

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 Covid - Act II: more insights

Sunday, March 14 | 11:15am | via ZOOM

"This is evolving science. You are seeing sausages being made - in front of the world's eyes," said Yale vaccine researcher Saad Omer last December. This recent comment referring to vaccine development illustrates the speed at which science has progressed during the pandemic.

Parkway member Dr. John Russell, will update us on news of the Covid war at the front lines, where we are now, and what he foresees in the future. Come with your questions and comments, as this presentation will be live and interactive. You cannot afford to miss this one.

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

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

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 cover pages 100 -199. This book is a dual biography of Malcolm X and MLK Jr. 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 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 7:00pm.

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

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

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue 3/16

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

Please join us as we continue *Born a Crime: Stories of a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah. We will discuss Section 2. 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

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)

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.

Prayer List as of March 3, 2021

Celebrations

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

David & Kaylyn Schulenburg - welcoming daughter **Mia Alexandra The Ruzickas** as they welcome granddaughter *Lucille Grace*.

Alex Garcia and Family - together again outside of Sanctuary in MO! https://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/reunited-alex-garciahonduran-immigrant-and-father-leaves-sanctuary-in-maplewood-churchafter-3-years/article_c1d8c913-b6d8-549d-9d33-4848598f4959.html

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 **Douglas Reynolds & Greg Schmelig** - grieving and giving thanks for Doug's father.

Audrey & John Nourse - from their cottage to Village Assisted Living where Audrey is settling into New Cove Memory Care -- at Cape Albeon.* Mary Ann Musial - renewing fight with cancer (Larson/Prendergast). Brian - recent double lung transplant due to COVID (Tossing). People rebounding from severe winter weather in TX and elsewhere.

Continuing

Jim & Polly Winkelmann - he is healing and making strides! 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 - responding well to new chemotherapy (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]
*John and Audrey Nourse - The Village at Cape Albeon 3300 Lake Bend Dr; St. Louis, MO 63088; 636-861-3200 [birthdates Audrey – December 19; John - October 26]
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 March 7 - **Epiphany UCC**, St. Louis; epiphanyucc.org *Week ending March* 14 - **Peace UCC**, Webster Groves; peaceuccstl.org

Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

Beautiful Law

Psalm 19 Amistad Sunday / UCC Women's Week, March 7 - 13

This week, we remember *La Amistad*. In 1839, the slave ship *La Amistad* traveled from one part of Cuba to another. The slaves on board were threatened by the cook, who said that he would kill and eat the captives. Led by Sengbe Pieh, a Mende man, the brave captives took control of the ship and demanded to be returned to Sierra Leone, their home country. Instead, they were taken further north, where the slavers hoped to encounter rescue in the form of an American ship. Another ship was indeed found, but those on board, with the help of anti-slavery activists including members of churches that preceded the United Church of Christ, were able to successfully sue for the freedom of all the people on board.

No wonder the Amistad, with the faith, courage and steadfastness shown by so many, has become a symbol of the UCC. It is fitting, too, that the Chapel at the United Church of Christ Church House at 700 Prospect Avenue in downtown Cleveland, Ohio is named for this ship and all that it represents.

Today, Amistad Chapel continues the legacy of the ship by being a place of sanctuary for all who worship there.

It is a place of marvelous beauty, inviting visitors in with delightful sounds of splashing water and the welcome of a table where all are fed. It is a place of prayer and quiet reflection in the midst of a busy downtown, and a community that gathers for worship to feed the soul. It is a place that tells a story in each design element and furnishing, which was carefully planned to tell the story of the Amistad and the captives it carried, whose struggle for freedom – "a story of faith and courage at sea" – inspired our Congregationalist forebears to stand with them in the fight against slavery.

You can find out more about Amistad Chapel by visiting in person or online at: http://amistadchapel.org/home/.