





www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, September 19, 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

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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.

Cover Art: Photo, *Ragged Sunflower* by Mona Herberg, St Peters, MO

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Wedding Anniversaries

9/20 POUNDS, Melissa & Louis (18)

9/25 SCHARF, Ingrid & Dave (16)

Birthdays

9/19 MCDUGALL, Ben

9/22 TUPPER, Leslie

9/19 SCHULENBURG, Suzy

9/23 MATTINGLY, Shirley

9/19 SHELTON, Killian

9/23 STAPPENBECK, Thad

9/21 KLEIN, Patricia

9/24 HOOD, Henry

9/21 ROESLER, Lydia

9/25 MASON, Mike

9/21 SCHATZ, Drew

9/25 WEAS, Dan

17th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, September 19, 2021 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation *Those who live as though God sets the rules are not going by their own rules. That is the self-sacrifice, or selflessness, that peace more often than not requires. Those who insist on going by their own rules cannot make that sacrifice. They are the steady adherents of global conflict because they are forever fighting both themselves and others to do whatever they think that they want to do.* ~Cris Jam

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 *Contemplation*—arr. John M. Rasley

Based on Chopin’s ETUDE, Opus 10, No. 3

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *Come and Find the Quiet Center*, v1

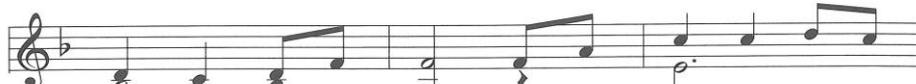
Unison



1. Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd-ed life we
2. Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
3. In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's



lead, find the room for hope to en - ter, find the
pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
pain, let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e -



frame where we are freed: clear the cha - os and the
be - ing, touch - es base, mak - ing space with - in our
brate the space we gain: there's a place for deep - est



clut - ter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the
think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun, rais - ing
dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the



things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

Scripture Psalm 1 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on this law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

***Call to Worship**

| | |
|--------------|---|
| One: | Who is wise and understanding among us? |
| Many: | Those who seek wisdom and understanding each and every day. |
| One: | Those who delight in God, follow Jesus and strengthen in the Spirit—leaning on and growing in love. |
| Many: | Come, learn more about the wisdom from above, a wisdom that yields a plentiful harvest. |
| One: | O God, your wisdom and ways are more precious than jewels. |
| Many: | We draw near to you, Holy Three in One. |
| All: | Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit. |

***Song** *In Unity We Lift Our Song*



1. In u - ni - ty we lift our song of grate - ful a - dor -
2. For sto - ries told and told a - gain to ev - ery gen - er -
3. For sa - cred scrip - tures hand - ed down, a bless - ed trust and
4. For God our way, our bread, our rest, of all these gifts the



a - tion, for broth - ers brave and sis - ters strong. What
 a - tion, to give us strength in times of pain, to
 trea - sure, which give us hope when hope is gone and
 Giv - er. Our strength, our guide, our nur - turing breast whose



cause for cel - e - bra - tion! For those whose faith - ful - ness
 give us con - so - la - tion. Our spir - its to re - vive
 make us weep with plea - sure. And when our eyes grow blind
 hand will yet de - liv - er. Who keeps us till the day



has kept us through dis - tress, who've shared with us our plight,
 to keep our dreams a - live, when we are far from home
 and death is close be - hind, we shall re - cite them still
 when night shall pass a - way, when hate and fear are gone



who've held us in the night, the bless - ed con - gre - ga - tion.
 and e - vil sea - sons come; how firm is our foun - da - tion.
 whose words our hearts can fill with hope be - yond all mea - sure.
 and all our work is done, and we shall sing for - ev - er.

***Opening Prayer** Jonny Baker

God of justice, peace and righteousness - come into this sacred space so we can experience you with all of our senses. Breathe your breath, your Spirit of prophecy, your energy, your enlivening, your imagination on us. Wake us up, open our eyes, unplug our ears that we might hear, that we might see, that we might grieve, that we might dream, that we might follow the ways of your extraordinary kindom. 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 are invited to Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time. We will also be on Zoom for those at home. We continue to require masks for all.

Blessing the Children *Jesus Loves the Little Children*

**Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Every child in every land,
Jesus holds them by the hand.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

Scripture James 3:13-4:3 (CEB – Common English Bible)

Are any of you wise and understanding? Show that your actions are good with a humble lifestyle that comes from wisdom. However, if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, then stop bragging and living in ways that deny the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above. Instead, it is from the earth, natural and demonic. Wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and everything that is evil. What of the wisdom from above? First, it is pure, and then peaceful, gentle, obedient, filled with mercy and good actions, fair, and genuine. Those who make peace sow the seeds of justice by their peaceful acts.

What is the source of conflict among you? What is the source of your disputes? Don't they come from your cravings that are at war in your own lives? You long for something you don't have, so you commit murder. You are jealous for something you can't get, so you struggle and fight. You don't have because you don't ask. You ask and don't have because you ask with evil intentions, to waste it on your own cravings.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer *Lord, Listen to Your Children Prying*

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, _____

Lord, send your Spir-it in this place; _____

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, _____ send us

love, send us power, send us grace. _____

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.]

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude *Closer Walk*—traditional folk song, unattributed

***Response** *Help Us Accept Each Other, v2*



1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept-ed us;
2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life
3. Let Your ac - cep - tance change us, So that we may be moved
4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters With all who are in need,



Teach us as sis - ter, broth-er, Each per - son to em-brace.
We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.
In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do - the truth in love;
Who hun - ger for ac - cep-tance, For righ - teous - ness and bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,
To prac - tice Your ac - cep-tance Un - til we know by heart
We need new eyes for see - ing, New hands for hold - ing on:



We are our - selves ac - cept - ed And meant to love and live.
To love them as we find them Or as they may be - come.
The ta - ble of for - give-ness And laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
Re - new us with Your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

*Prayer of Dedication Carol Penner

Giver of all good things, let your grace flow through us; a generous stream, unstoppable, refreshing, abundant. We release these gifts into your river of love, flowing out to all the world – near and far. Amen.

*Song of Parting *We Are One in the Spirit*



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,
4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love.



yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth

*Postlude *Andante, from Orfeo*—C.W. von Gluck, arr. Thomas Chesterton

Announcements

Share Joy with Flowers!

Sign up for Worship Service Altar Flower donations on the poster in The Gathering Space. If you wish to remember a loved one or honor someone please make a note. The cost is \$30.00 and please place a check on the offering plate. A Sanctuary Team member will purchase and arrange for you. More info, contact Carol Cobb: ccjcobb@aol.com

The Parkway Speakers Series Presentations for Fall

Sundays | 11:15am | Heritage Room and ZOOM

September 26

The Wonders of Poetry by Dottie Dwyer. Dottie Dwyer returns to take us on another amazing tour of the wonders of poetry.

October 10 and 17

The Twists and Turns of the Law of Divorce in Missouri by Judge Tom Frawley. Divorce is the death of a dream you thought was going to last. If you have some insights into the law and the process, you may be more helpful and effective in offering care and empathy.

November 14 and 21

Critical Race Theory by David Spener, Professor of Sociology at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas and an adjunct professor in the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin. He teaches Critical Race Theory, a body of scholarship and an academic movement that seeks to critically examine the intersection of race and US law. (Youth are encouraged to attend too).

December 5

The Fall of County Executive Steve Stenger by Winston Calvert. Winston is a senior member of the current St. Louis County Executive's office. He observed the downfall of Stenger as it unfolded, and will share his views and observations, some of which may not generally be known by the public.

All of these presentations are currently scheduled in the Heritage Room following worship, as well as on Zoom. Some are live, others have or will be prerecorded. Those that are prerecorded will be available for televising in the Heritage Room and on Parkway's YouTube channel. Watch for any changes as our season moves along.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwd0EzV0VHV1lyQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 9147 6997 | **Passcode:** 181565 | **Dial in:** (312) 626-6799

We welcome your suggestions for potential speakers in 2022. Please pass those along to Richard Scherrer.

Welcoming Afghans to St. Louis

The International Institute is grateful for the contributions from communities around St. Louis. They are overwhelmed by this generosity and currently need volunteers to help sort recent gifts from everyone. The Institute asks that future donations of goods not be dropped off at their location until September 9 to allow for sorting, organizing, and assessing future items most needed.

You can help by:

1. Signing up to volunteer for sorting current items. Shift times are listed on a link at www.iistl.org. Click on the Afghan SIVs banner for further information. The volunteer slots can be found at <https://iistl.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/>
2. Donating: Visa gift cards, gas cards, gift cards for Aldi's, Target, Schnucks, Walmart, Jay's International, and monetary gifts to the International Institute.
3. Continue saving household items as International Institute gears up for current and arriving Afghans. Items can be placed in the church lobby and marked for later delivery to the Institute.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Habitat for Humanity Volunteers Wanted

Sat, Nov 20 | 8:00am | 3400 Park Ave

The 2021 Parkway UCC workday is scheduled for Saturday, November 20.

HFH is asking for 4 volunteers from our church, and the spots will probably go fast. Please contact Tom McKenzie: mckenzie1947@att.net or 314-567-0429.

The work site is in the 3400 block of Park Ave, just East of Cardinal Glennon Hospital. Also, please make any contributions to: Habitat for

Humanity Saint Louis | 3830 South Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63118

It is important to make the donation to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis so it will go to our local affiliate.

Crop Walk 2021

Sunday, October 24 | 4:30 check in | | 5:00pm walk | Eden Seminary: 475 E Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves MO 63119

The 2021 CROP HUNGER WALK will be a hybrid event. For those who feel safe gathering in person to walk together, we shall gather on Sunday, October 24 at Eden Seminary, 475 Lockwood Ave, in Webster Groves 63119--check in 4:30PM and Walk at 5:00PM. However, participants may also register for the Walk, and they may choose to walk wherever and whenever they want or in small groups. For more details and to register, raise funds, and/or donate:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/saintlouismo>

Type in Parkway UCC where you may join the team or make a donation

The CROP CONCERT will follow the CROP Walk at 7:00PM in the Wehrli Chapel at Eden Seminary Covid Precautions will be in place.

Contact Sue Moellering: susieqslp@sbcglobal.net

Walk to End Alzheimer's

Saturday, October 23 | 9:00am | The Enterprise Center

The Walk to End Alzheimer's is scheduled for Sat. Oct. 23, 2021. The Greater Missouri Chapter is moving forward with plans to host the walk in-person downtown outside the Enterprise Center. (Everything is outside.) They will continue to offer options to participate online and in your neighborhood for those who prefer to socially distance. It could be, as last year, and be everywhere: on every sidewalk, track and trail. COVID will again dictate. The Parkway team page:

https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?df_id=47035&PROXY_ID=667857&PROXY_TYPE=22&FR_ID=14598

You can learn more by going to www.alz.org/help-support/resources or the Alzheimer's Helpline which 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. Tools and support are also available in Spanish. Want to learn more about the Alzheimer's Association and what they do here in St. Louis? Visit alz.org and/or contact PUC's Faith Outreach Ambassador with the Alzheimer's Association, Joyce Ruiz at joyceruiz7@gmail.com.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Celebrations

Dana Schrenker and Nate Foreman - wedding here on 9/24.
All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far!

Concerns

Jim and Polly Winkelmann - healing for her intense back pain; healing for his arm and shoulder after a fall - surgery pending?

Kathleen Tarr - healing well after cardiac procedure last week.

John Nourse and family - grieving and giving thanks for Audrey

Dan & Kim, Ben/Henry/Davis Weas - Dan's cancer treatment.

Pat & Janet - his cancer diagnosis; radiation/chemo (Skip Larson SIL).

All impacted by Covid-19 - individuals, families, healthcare workers; including the family of Mike (PUCC friend) - mourning/celebrating him.

If anyone needs support or if anyone vaccinated would like to be on the Care Team, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-330-0629

Caregivers of all shapes and sizes.

People recovering from natural and human made disasters.

20th Anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks.

Continuing

Carol Wilbois' daughter Kim - healing from open heart surgery.

Cindy & Ralf and Andrew Wessel - grieving Tyler.

Skip Larson, Karen Nolte, Janet Prendergast - remembering Ellie.

Mary Maxeiner - healing after knee replacement surgery.

Joan and Larry Brannigan - continuing health concerns for Larry.

Sr. Mary Kay McKenzie - diagnosed with stage 4 cancer (Tom's sis).

Val - healing of fractures in her back (Jim Winkelmann's mom).

Bob - continues to struggle with Parkinson's.

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.

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

Lori Connors - for strength, stamina through 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.

Grateful Tran - half-way house, new skills, schizophrenia (Buretta).

The extended Eggebrecht Family - healing and wholeness.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Carol Aston - *Sunrise on Clayton*; 7920 Clayton Rd, #122;

Richmond Hts, MO 63117; 314-646-7600. [birthdate: December 12]

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]

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

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]

Ruth Peace - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-0253; meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: August 8]

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

Pinky Wilcoxon - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-0253; meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: April 7]

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

Variety of Parkway members/friends - employment issues.

Gun violence and other violence across the US and other lands.

Conversations about the Death Penalty in the United States.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Peace and Justice near and far.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

US Military around the globe.

The people of politically unstable countries across the globe.

Peace in the Mid-East.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending September 12 - **St Luke’s UCC**, Imperial; stlukesimperial.org

Week ending September 19 - **St Mark UCC**, Arnold; stmarkucc.org

Week ending September 26 - **St. Louis Association UCC**;

<https://www.missourimidsouth.org/st-louis-association>

September

Helen Hunt Jackson

The golden-rod is yellow;
The corn is turning brown;
The trees in apple orchards
With fruit are bending down.

The gentian's bluest fringes
Are curling in the sun;
In dusty pods the milkweed
Its hidden silk has spun.
The sedges flaunt their harvest,
In every meadow nook;
And asters by the brook-side
Make asters in the brook,

From dewy lanes at morning
The grapes' sweet odors rise;
At noon the roads all flutter
With yellow butterflies.
By all these lovely tokens
September days are here,
With summer's best of weather,
And autumn's best of cheer.

But none of all this beauty
Which floods the earth and air
Is unto me the secret
Which makes September fair.

'Tis a thing which I remember;
To name it thrills me yet:
One day of one September
I never can forget.

17th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Mark 9:30-37

First in Caring

Just Peace Sunday

It has been said that in Africa, a traditional greeting and response is, “How are the children?” and “The children are well.”

“How are the children?” is not a way to inquire about the particular youth in one’s own household, but instead is an invitation to consider what is most important in the whole society, and whether that is being attended to. “The children are well” refers not just to the health of a few of the children who are known to the conversation partners, but the peace and prosperity of all of society. This question, and its response, is a way of assuring that the most important priorities of the community are placed first.

A movie available from the United Church of Christ Palestine Israel Network (UCC PIN) called *How Are the Children?* tells the stories of Palestinian children, some as young as five years old, detained by Israeli forces in the West Bank of Israel. On their website, <https://hatcnw.org/>, UCC PIN responds to some questions that arise from that first and most important question, “How are the children?”

“Since 1967, the United Church of Christ has spoken through General Synod resolutions regarding issues of peace and justice in the Middle East. Long before that, mission personnel of our predecessor denominations worked successfully to create partnerships of mutuality and ministry throughout the region. Here we provide information on various aspects of UCC witness related to the experience of children in Palestine and Israel. These links provide information regarding the 2017 UCC resolution of witness concerning Palestinian children in Israeli military detention.”*

*From the website page <https://hatcnw.org/ucc-resolutions-and-faqs/>

You can also find links to the movie “*How Are the Children?*” and guides for utilizing this powerful resource with your congregation, on the website <https://hatcnw.org/>.

Today is Just Peace Sunday. For 30 years, the Just Peace Church pronouncement has inspired a grassroots movement of UCC congregations committed to corporately naming and boldly proclaiming a public identity as a justice-doing, peace-seeking church. For more information about Just Peace, visit ucc.org.