





www.parkwayucc.org
Sunday, October 31, 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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Welcome to Parkway

Thank you for joining us this morning. Please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat.

Today's Flowers are given by Joyce and John Ruiz.

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 Photo Mona Herberg, Byrne's Mill

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Wedding Anniversaries

11/01 DEGROOTE, Joan and Steve

11/04 SCHERRER, Betty and Richard

Birthdays

11/02 BARNES, Steve

11/04 NGUYEN, Pauline

11/02 WAITE, Oscar

11/05 ROSENBERGER, Cassie

11/03 BOWERMASTER, Tod

11/06 BARNES, Andrea

Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 31, 2021 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation

I was there to go where they asked and to do what they requested. I was one additional body to speak truth to power. ~Traci Blackmon

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

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song

God Calls Us Here (tune: Amazing Grace)

Be still, oh heart, you're not alone Your beat is shared with Me.

Come now - and calm and center here.

You're Mine, secure and free.

Into Your care we offer now, our worries, fears and strife.

We turn to You and now You're near. You're light, our love and life

Scripture

Ruth 1:1-18 (CEB—Common English Bible)

Chris Pickett, Reader

During the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. A man with his wife and two sons went from Bethlehem of Judah to dwell in the territory of Moab. The name of that man was Elimelech, the name of his wife was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They entered the territory of Moab and settled there.

But Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died. Then only she was left, along with her two sons. They took wives for themselves, Moabite women; the name of the first was Orpah and the name of the second was Ruth. And they lived there for about ten years.

But both of the sons, Mahlon and Chilion, also died. Only the woman was left, without her two children and without her husband.

Then she arose along with her daughters-in-law to return from the field of Moab, because while in the territory of Moab she had heard that the LORD had paid attention to the people by providing food for them. She left the place where she had been, and her two daughters-in-law went with her. They went along the road to return to the land of Judah.

Naomi said to her daughters-in-law, “Go, turn back, each of you to the household of your mother. May the LORD deal faithfully with you, just as you have done with the dead and with me.

May the LORD provide for you so that you may find security, each woman in the household of her husband.” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

But they replied to her, “No, instead we will return with you, to your people.”

Naomi replied, “Turn back, my daughters. Why would you go with me? Will there again be sons in my womb, that they would be husbands for you? Turn back, my daughters. Go. I am too old for a husband. If I were to say that I have hope, even if I had a husband tonight, and even more, if I were to bear sons—would you wait until they grew up? Would you refrain from having a husband? No, my daughters. This is more bitter for me than for you, since the LORD’s will has come out against me.”

Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth stayed with her. Naomi said, “Look, your sister-in-law is returning to her people and to her gods. Turn back after your sister-in-law.”

But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to abandon you, to turn back from following after you. Wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD do this to me and more so if even death separates me from you.” When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped speaking to her about it.

***Call to Worship** based on words of Kenneth Cober

One:	Let us renew the church again today - both to serve and to adore.
Many:	We commit again as salt throughout the land, and as light from a stand.
One:	We want to learn God’s Word, reveal its truth divine.
Many:	O let our hearts with love be stirred. We want to live God’s Word.
One:	Let us learn to pray, for God is ever near. God’s still voice let us hear.
Many:	Our souls are restless till they rest in God. This the goal we pursue.
One:	Let us learn to love, with strength of heart and mind - each and all humankind. We break down old walls of prejudice and hate.
Many:	We share God’s grace from Heav’n above, as God teaches us how to love.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

*Song We Are the Church

Refrain (Unison)

3

6

8

10

G

Em⁷ *G/D* *D⁷* *G* *C/E*

Am *D* *Bm* *Em*

Am/G *G* *Fine* *G*

C

I am the church! You are the church!

We are the church to - geth - er! All who fol - low Je - sus,

all a - round the world! Yes, we're the church to -

geth - er!

1. The church is not a build - ing, the
 2. We're man - y kinds of peo - ple, with
 3. Some - times the church is march - ing, some -
 4. And when the peo - ple gath - er, there's
 5 At Pen - te - cost some peo - ple re -

church is not a stee - ple, the
 man - y kinds of fac - es, all
 times it's brave - ly burn - ing, some -
 sing - ing and there's pray - ing, there's
 ceived the Ho - ly Spir - it and

11

church is not a rest - ing place, the
col - ors and all a - ges, too, from
times it's rid - ing, some - times hid - ing,
laugh - ing and there's cry - ing some - times,
told the Good News through the world to

12

Am/C D D.C.

church is a peo - ple.
all times and plac - es.
al - ways it's learn - ing.
all of it say - ing:
all who would hear it.

*Opening Prayer Ryan Slifka

Wondrous God: Thirteen billion years ago your creative spark called creation into being. Two thousand years ago you lit a spark of new creation in Christ. Five hundred years ago, your grace reignited the hearts of people like Martin Luther, John Calvin, Katharina Zell, Ulrich Zwingli, and Argula von Grumbach. Just when we think all is settled, everything is finished, closed, your power and presence explodes on to the scene yet again. Fill us with your power and presence, O God, so we may, like our grandparents in faith carry your truth, beauty, and justice to the world you so love—a world in such need. In Jesus' name. 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 & Teens are invited to the Lower Level for Sunday School. Meet them in the Fellowship Hall for Halloween Yoga at 11:15am

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 Mark 12:28-34 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

Chris Pickett, Reader

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?”

Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer *Cares Chorus*

I cast all my cares up-on you, I
lay all of my bur-dens down at your feet, and
an-y-time that I don't know what to do, I will
cast all my cares up-on you.

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 *By Grace We Have Been Saved Through Faith*

ST. ANNE 8.6.8.6 (Our God, Our Help in Ages Past)

**By grace, we have been saved through faith
and not by works we do.**

For just as God gives life and breath God makes us whole and new.

**We cannot boast of all our deeds; we have not earned our way.
It's God, in Christ, who claims and frees and calls us day by day.**

**O God, in Christ, we hold this world within your love's embrace.
In serving you, we thank you, Lord, for all your wondrous grace.**

Stewardship Moment Ellie Svenson

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory

***Response**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures high and low.

Praise God who's love is fully known.

Creator, Christ, and Holy One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** based on the words of John Wesley

**By the power of the Spirit we pledge to do all the good we can - by
all the means we can, in all the ways we can, in all the places we can
at all the times we can, to all the people we can for as long as ever
we can. Amen.**

***Song of Parting** *Our God, We Are a Church Reformed*

AZMON 8.6.8.6 (O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing)

Our God, we are a church reformed, A church reforming still:

We long to grow in your true Word, And follow more your will.

**In love, you bring your people here And call your church to you,
That we may know love's rising joy And serve in all we do.**

You call us to community; By faith our hearts are stirred.

In church, we seek an ordered life, According to your Word.

**The world makes gods of lesser things, And wrongly uses power;
So by your Spirit may we work For justice every hour.**

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth**

October Gave a Party by George Cooper

October gave a party; the leaves by hundreds came –
the Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples, and leaves of every name.
The Sunshine spread a carpet, and everything was grand,
Miss Weather led the dancing, Professor Wind the band.
The Chestnuts came in yellow, the Oaks in crimson dressed;
The lovely Misses Maple in scarlet looked their best;
All balanced to their partners, and gaily fluttered by;
The sight was like a rainbow, new fallen from the sky.
Then, in the rustic hollow, at hide-and-seek they played,
The party closed at sundown, and everybody stayed.
Professor Wind played louder; they flew along the ground;
And then the party ended in jolly “hands around.”

Announcements

TODAY! Halloween Yoga Sunday, October 31 | 11:15am

Angela Lamb is a certified Yoga instructor. She has been teaching yoga to children since 2017. She recently published a yoga lesson plan book so families could do her lessons at home to bond, relax and have fun. Her new book is called *Bonding with My Bunnies: Yoga Lesson Plans for Families & Children*. Here is the Barnes & Noble link for the book:

<https://m.barnesandnoble.com/w/bonding-with-my-bunnies-angela-lamb/1140007338>

On Halloween after worship, she will be leading children in the Halloween Yoga lesson which includes: a share circle, a kid friendly yoga practice and breathing exercise, yoga games and relaxation mindfulness exercise.

The whole family can join us for this fun, mindful, relaxing time.

Please bring your yoga mat if you have one (or a beach towel works too).

Labeling Online Donations

We are grateful for all of our online contributors! Please use your church envelope # as the payer account number. Also, if splitting your gift between the General Fund and the Building Fund, please indicate the amounts in the mem line.

Thank you from the Sunday morning counters.

Question? Reach out to Harold Cobb ccjacob@aol.com

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue November 2

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 1:45 Fellowship | 2:00pm book discussion | via ZOOM

Join us as we continue the book, *The Beekeeper of Aleppo*, a novel by Christy Lefteri. It is a story about the refugee experience, full of hope and very timely as we welcome immigrants into our city and nation. We continue to meet and discuss on November 2. We will cover page 207 until the end.

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWW4yZUYwUT09>

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

Harper School Open House Sun, Nov 7 | 11:30am-3:30pm

Harper School will be holding an Open House and we would love to have you check out our program which we hold on the Parkway UCC campus M-F.

We offer programs for toddlers (2 years old) through 1st grade. We have a before school care program which start at 7:00 a.m., half day and full day programs that start at 8:20 a.m. and go until 11:30 a.m. (half day) or 3:30 p.m. (full day). We also offer an aftercare program which ends at 5:30 p.m. Please feel free to stop in after Church on Sunday, invite your friends too! Visit us at www.harperschool.org/stl/ for more information.

Intertwine Interfaith Initiative Volunteer Opportunity

Sat, Nov 13 | 1:00pm | Queeny Park | 1675 S Mason Rd
The Intertwine Interfaith Initiative together with Congregation Shaare Emeth and TASOM (Turkish American Society of Missouri) will host a clean-up at

Queeney Park. We will be cutting down honeysuckle and cleaning up the gardens. This is at the entrance off of Mason Road.

Afterwards we will move to the Smith Shelter located at 550 Weidman Road from 3-4:30pm to make s'mores. Questions? Please contact Paige Penico: andipaige@hotmail.com. Please RVSP by November 6.

The Parkway Speakers Series Presentations for Fall

Selected Sundays | 11:15am | Heritage Room and ZOOM

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).

These presentations are currently scheduled in the Heritage Room following worship, as well as on Zoom.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHVllyQT09> **Meeting ID:** 846 9147 6997 | **Passcode:** 181565 | **Dial** (312) 626-6799

Loving our Neighbors at Thanksgiving

We look forward to sharing Thanksgiving with loved ones near and far by providing 200 1-pound bags/boxes of sugar for **Isaiah 58** families. Consider donating one or two or more bags/boxes through next Sunday, November 7. Place your sugar in the marked box in the church entryway.

Circle of Concern is also gearing up for their big Thanksgiving Basket Program for 700 families. Just like last year, we are committing to supplying 150 boxes of food items that will go alongside a turkey, frozen pie, fresh fruit, vegetables and a gift card from Aldi's. **We are about 1/3 to our goal.** It would be helpful if your donation contained all eight items for the box, but all donations are appreciated.

Items in each box: canned pumpkin, cranberry sauce, canned fruit, chicken broth, boxed stuffing mix, jar of turkey or chicken gravy, cornbread muffin mix, boxed mashed potatoes. **We are taking the items to Circle on Monday, November 8!**

Many thanks for your kindness and generosity!

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 they are ready -- to allow for sorting, organizing, and assessing future items most needed.

You can help by:

1. Signing up to volunteer for sorting current items. The volunteer slots can be found at <https://iistl.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=57148>

2. Donating: We have postponed in-kind donation drop offs until further notice! We continue to receive financial donations and gift cards.
3. Continue saving items 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.

Special Olympics Bowling Tournament

Sat, Dec 4 | 10:30an – 2:00pm | Cave Springs Lanes | 4055 Mexico Rd 63303

You will have a GREAT TIME getting to know some special people and cheering for them as they compete.

Lane Assistant is by far the BEST job at the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament! Lane assistants get to know the athletes bowling on their lane and will keep athletes in order and bowling at a good pace all while making sure everyone is having fun. Lane assistants will track scores at the end of each game.

Special Olympics:

From a backyard summer camp for people with intellectual disabilities to a global movement, *Special Olympics* has been changing lives and attitudes since 1968.

When people speak of the origin of Special Olympics, they look no further than the first Camp Shriver - founded by Eunice Kennedy Shriver in the early 1960s. They talk of one woman's dream that started in her own backyard. They speak of her vision: how through sports, the lives of people with intellectual disabilities would be transformed and public perceptions would be changed forever.

Back in 1960, a woman from Bethesda, Maryland called up Eunice and told her that she was having trouble finding a summer camp for her child with intellectual disability. The child wouldn't be accepted into a mainstream camp, and, at that time, the public education system couldn't figure out what to do with special-needs children never mind supply them with summer activities. Then another woman told her almost the same thing.

"Enough," said Eunice.

In Eunice's world, "enough" has always meant "do something about it."

Hospitality is Parkway UCC's middle name

Speaking biblically, hospitality is treating strangers and friends alike. We are looking toward the future as we plan Sunday Hospitality Weekly Teams. Each team would be responsible for just one Sunday a month, with a total of 12 Sundays in a year. Some tasks can be done now, others in the future.

A church group met recently to discuss the forming of weekly teams to provide for ushering, greeting, coffee makers, food hosts, beverages, clean up, flower purchasers/arrangers, and preparing bouquets for shut-ins. We have some former hospitality volunteers willing to continue, but we could use more volunteers for specific or any tasks needed.

We especially need ushers for first Sunday and Communion servers, ushers for fourth Sunday and subs for any week, and one flower purchaser/arranger.

Please contact Ellie Svenson svensonellie@gmail.com (314) 323-7194 or Carol Cobb ccjacob@aol.com (314) 640-8166 to volunteer for a specific week and possibly a particular task. Many hands make the tasks lighter.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Celebrations

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far!

Avery - due 1/6 born 10/17 - now in the NICU doing well (Borgmann).

Concerns

Conrad Damsgaard - in & out of hospital recently - at Big Barnes now.

George & Peg Lestina - as he recuperates from surgery in a rehab ctr.

Sally Boughman - home after recent hospitalization; pain management

A friend of PUCC - healing from Gender Affirmation/Confirmation (aka Sex Reassignment Surgery) last week.

Sue Moellering - knee replacement surgery on October 28.

Jim and Polly Winkelmann - healing for her spinal stress fracture and his shoulder after surgery.... Jim went home from rehab over wkend.

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

Mona Herberg - upcoming surgery in November.

Tim Ruiz - healing after recent surgery (John's brother).

Pat & Janet - his radiation/chemo treatment (Skip Larson's son-in-law)

Tom Ursic and Family - severe post-covid pulmonary fibrosis (Svenson)

All impacted by Covid-19 - individuals, families, healthcare workers; If anyone needs support or if anyone vaccinated would like to be on the Care Team, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org

Graveside service for **Ruth Murray** on Saturday, November 6 at 10am in Breese, Illinois at the UCC cemetery there. You are invited.

Continuing

John Pavlovitz - recovering from surgery to remove a brain tumor.

Cindy & Ralf and Andrew Wessel - grieving Tyler.

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

Joan and Larry Brannigan - continuing health concerns for Larry.

Sr. Mary Kay McKenzie - living 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).

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]

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.

Caregivers of all shapes and sizes.

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 October 31 - **St. Peters UCC**, Ferguson; stpeterschurch.org

Week ending November 7 - **St. Philip UCC**, St. Louis; stphilipsucc.com

Peggy & Mike Mohl - relocating to be closer to family in DC last week.
3709 S. George Mason Dr., #105E; Falls Church, VA 22041

Reformation Sunday

October 31, 2021

Reformation-Reconciliation Day

UCC Higher Education Sunday

Ruth 1:1-18

Wherever You Go

Today is Reformation Sunday when Protestants celebrate the ancestors in faith who created the first waves of Reformation that continue to be felt today.

A lesser-known reformer to many is Caspar Schwenckfeld von Ossig (1489-1561), a German Reformer. Church historians have generally ignored Schwenckfeld; maybe because of his many disagreements with Martin Luther. Luther, in one of his letters (December 6, 1543), spoke of Schwenckfeld as “the poor simpleton” who was “possessed of the devil.”

Schwenckfeld refused to retaliate or to make public the feud between himself and the famous reformer. He just kept preaching his understanding of scripture as critical but not literal for understanding the Spirit’s work, his insistence on the oneness of all baptized believers, and his belief in the beautiful humanity of the service of communion.

Banished because of pressure from both Catholics and other Protestants, Schwenckfeld lived for many years in exile. He depended on friends, who circulated his writings and provided him refuge until his death on December 10, 1561. Schwenckfeld remained a bachelor and his followers were all “spiritual heirs” who were attracted to his reforming spirit of “The Middle Way,” between literal biblicism and blind sacramentalism.

Waves of persecution threatened the Schwenckfelders with extinction throughout the 1600s, and by the mid-1700’s only one alternative remained: leave everything and escape.

On July 29, 1734, forty families began the journey to Pennsylvania and a new life.

The descendants of those forty families still worship in Schwenckfelder UCC churches in Palm, Lansdale, Norristown, and Philadelphia, and proudly carry on the philosophy and thinking of Caspar Schwenckfeld.

This information is adapted from *Hidden Histories of the UCC* which is searchable online at ucc.org.