





www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, January 30, 2022

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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. If you are with us virtually, 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

Cover Photo: Photo by **Mohan Reddy** from **Pexels**—
<https://www.pexels.com/photo/northern-lights-over-mountain-and-forest-4388593/>

Communications Requests: Please use the form at **www.parkwayucc.org/communications** for all announcements for all our media. Bulletin and eNews deadline is noon Monday.

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Anniversaries

1/31 MCDUGALL, Ben & Marilyn (52)

Birthdays

1/31 GRISHAM, Molly

2/3 MUCHNICK, Natalie

1/31 HERBERG, Mona

2/4 WADDELL, Alexa

2/1 BECK, Randy

2/5 BOWMAN, Elise

2/1 STAPPENBECK, Andrew

2/5 OEHLER, Emily

2/2 ZOLLER, Michael

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 30, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation

Words have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate, and to humble. ~Yehuda Berg

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 Sanctuary #2164

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
Lord, pre - pare me to be your lov - ing e - cho, kind and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
gen - tle, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.
liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

Scripture Jeremiah 1:4-10 (CEB – Common English Bible)

The Lord's word came to me:

“Before I created you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart; I made you a prophet to the nations.”

“Ah, Lord God,” I said, “I don't know how to speak because I'm only a child.”

The Lord responded, “Don't say, ‘I'm only a child.’ Where I send you, you must go; what I tell you, you must say. Don't be afraid of them, because I'm with you to rescue you,” declares the Lord.

Then the Lord stretched out their hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, “I'm putting my words in your mouth. This very day I appoint you over nations and empires, to dig up and pull down, to destroy and demolish, to build and plant.”

***Call to Worship** based on words by Jim Burklo

One: Let us worship and adore God:

Many: **source, essence, and aim of all things, spirit that enlivens all beings.**

One: Let us follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself and shared a way for others to find God in themselves:

Many: **He was born through love, lived for love, struggled for love, died for love, but love never ends.**

One: Let us give ourselves over to the leadings of the love that is God:

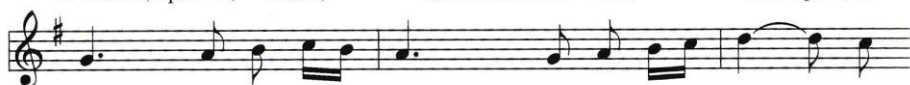
Many: **to be compassionate to all beings, to live and serve in community with others, to ask for and offer forgiveness, that we may be infused and inspired in the Spirit.**

All: **Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.**

***Song** *Though I May Speak* #335



1. Though I	may	speak	with brav - est	fire,	And have the
2. Though I	may	give	all I pos - sess,		And striv - ing
3. Come, Spir - it,	come,		our hearts con - trol,		Our spir - its



gift	to	all	in - spire,	And have not	love,	my
so	my	love	pro - fess,	But not be	given	by
long	to	be	made whole.	Let in - ward	love	guide



words are	vain;	As sound - ing	brass,	and hope - less	gain.
love with - in,		The prof - it	soon	turns strange - ly	thin.
ev - ery	deed;	By this we	wor - ship	and are	freed.

***Opening Prayer** Joanna Harader

Holy God, you call us ‘beloved’ and you love us with a fierceness that is at once unsettling and comforting. May your Divine love dwell within us and be enacted through us—so that no matter what language we speak, love will dance within each word we say. When you call us to stand up for justice, love will be the power that drives our actions. When we seek knowledge, love will compel us beyond idle curiosity all the way to truth. When we offer our prayers in faith, love for you will fill our hearts with peace. When we give of ourselves and our possessions, love for you and your people will shine above love for worldly things. Thank you, God, for the gift of love. Empower us to walk the path love opens before us. 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 Lower Level - masks for all.

Blessing the Children *Lead Me, Guide Me #2214*

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

Scripture 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying #2193*

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.]

Song *Bring Many Names #2047*

Unison

1 Bring man-y names, beau-ti-ful and good, cel-e-brate, in
2 Strong moth-er God, work-ing night and day, plan-ning all the
3 Warm fa-ther God, hug-ging ev-ery child, feel-ing all the
4 Old, ach-ing God, grey with end-less care, calm-ly pier-cing

par-a-ble and sto-ry, ho-li-ness in glo-ry, liv-ing, lov-ing God.
won-ders of cre-a-tion, set-ting each e-qua-tion, gen-i-us at play:
strains of hu-man liv-ing, car-ing and for-giv-ing till we're rec-on-ciled:
e-vil's new dis-guis-es, glad of good sur-pris-es, wis-er than de-spair:



Hail and Ho - san - na! bring man - y names! great, liv - ing God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, strong moth - er God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, warm fa - ther God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, old, ach - ing God!

5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger,
 on the move,
 say - ing no to false - hood and
 un - kind - ness,
 cry - ing out for jus - tice,
 giv - ing all you have:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 young, grow - ing God!

6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing,
 clos - er yet than breath - ing,
 ev - er - last - ing home:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 great, liv - ing God!

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude

***Response** *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace* #2171, v2



1. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. _____ Where
 2. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. _____ Where
 4. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. _____ It



there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. _____ Where
 there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope. _____ Where
 is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, _____ in



there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord, _____ and
 there is dark - ness, _____ on - ly light, _____ and
 giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, _____ and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you. _____
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy. _____
 dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life. _____

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, we recognize that the greatest gift is the gift of love. May our offerings distribute this love to the world: the small corner of the world we inhabit with the people we know—and the larger world where the power of love is also needed. Amen.

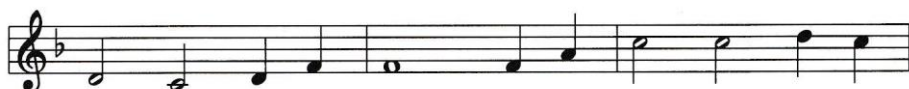
*Song of Parting *As a Fire is Meant for Burning* #2237



1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a bright and warm-ing
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are pil - grims on the
3. As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re -



flame, so the church is meant for mis - sion, giv - ing
way. We are seek - ers; we are giv - ers; we are
newed, so may we be signs of one - ness 'mid earth's



glo - ry to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or
ves - sels made of clay. By our gen - tle, lov - ing
peo - ples, man - y hued. As a rain - bow lights the



cus - toms, but to build a bridge of care, we join
ac - tions we would show that Christ is light. In a
heav - ens when a storm is past and gone, may our



hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.
hum - ble, lis - tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light.
lives re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

Annual Congregational Meeting: 2022 Budget

Announcements

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue February 1

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 1:45 Fellowship | 2:00pm book discussion | via ZOOM
Join TAD as we continue discussing the book, *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times*, by Jane Goodall, Douglas Abrams, and Gail Hudson. The Book of Hope touches on vital questions, including: How do we stay hopeful when everything seems hopeless? How do we cultivate hope in our children? What is the relationship between hope and action? Everyone is welcome.

Contact Jackie Eiffert: jeiffert2@gmail.com

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndTW4yZUYwUT09>

Phone: 312 626 6799 | **Meeting ID:** 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007

A few quotes from *The Book of Hope*:

- Hope is often misunderstood. People tend to think that it is simply passive wishful thinking: I hope something will happen but I'm not going to do anything about it. This is indeed the opposite of real hope, which requires action and engagement.
- Hope does not deny the evil, but is a response to it.
- Forgiveness is how we unchain ourselves from the past.

A great deal of our onslaught on Mother Nature is not really lack of intelligence but a lack of compassion for future generations and the health of the planet.

If God is Love, Don't Be a Jerk

It's not too late to participate! *If God is Love Online!* with John Pavlovitz.

This experience is designed to be flexible, so whether you're participating on your own or with others you can move at a pace you're comfortable with. See the two-minute intro from John here:

<https://www.ifgodislove.com/membership-area1637547949296>
(login... username: kevin@parkwayucc.org; password: JPav2022!)

On Demand Chapter Videos

Three pre-recorded videos are added to the If God is Love website each Sunday morning to the member area and each video will cover a chapter from the book. Bookmark the page and come back to view the new videos. Don't feel compelled to watch three videos per week. You'll have these videos on-demand and can watch them whenever you'd like after the six weeks. (Use same web address and login as above.)

Live Zoom Gatherings from our Heritage Room or your home

Beginning on Wednesday, January 19th, at 7pm CT, we met with John and others live on Zoom! For these sessions, after John speaks, we'll have an open Zoom conversation about anything that's on your mind. You can ask questions about the book, expand an idea, share a story, and encourage one another. If you can't make the live gatherings, don't worry. They will also be recorded so you'll be able to watch at your convenience.

We will debrief each Zoom as PUCCers after each session. If you're not here in the Heritage Room, join us on our PUCC Zoom (unique from the JPav Zoom): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURyWURLNmkwZD0EzV0VHV1IyQT09> Meeting ID: 846 9147 6997; Passcode: 181565

Here is the link for the weekly Zoom gatherings with John on Wednesday evenings: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81362160670>

Zoom Gathering Schedule with John and others (all are at 7pm CT):

January 19; January 26; February 2; February 9; February 16;

February 23... and a final wrap up at 8pm CT on Saturday, February 26.

Join us in the Heritage Room (please enter back doors) or from your home.

Questions? Contact kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

More about the book...

Imagine for a moment what the world might look like if we as people of faith, morality, and conscience actually aspired to this mantra. What if we worked to create a world that was more loving and equitable than when we arrived?

What if we invited one another to share in wide-open, fearless, spiritual communities truly marked by compassion and interdependence?

What if we daily challenged ourselves to live a faith that simply made us better humans?

John Pavlovitz explores how we can embody this kinder kind of spirituality where we humbly examine our belief system to understand how it might compel us to act in less-than-loving ways toward others.

In *If God Is Love, Don't Be a Jerk*, Pavlovitz examines the bedrock ideas of our religion: the existence of hell, the utility of prayer, the way we treat LGBTQ people, the value of anger, and other doctrines to help all of us take an honest look at how the beliefs we hold shape our relationships with God and our fellow humans—and to make sure that love has the last, loudest word.

"I've always joked that I was going to start a new church: **The Church of Not Being Horrible**. Our mission statement would simply be: *Don't be horrible to people*. Our *what we believe* doctrinal statements would be replaced by how we treat people promises: Don't treat them as less worthy of love, respect, dignity, joy, and opportunity than you are. Don't create caricatures of them based on their skin color, their religion, their sexual orientation, the amount of money they have, or the circumstances they find themselves in. Don't seek to take away things from them that you already enjoy in abundance: civil rights, clean water, education, marriage, access to healthcare. Don't tell someone's story for them about why they are poor, depressed, addicted, victimized, or alone. Let them tell their story and believe they know it better than you do. Don't imagine that your experience of the world is everyone's experience of the world; that the ease, comfort, support, affection you have received are universal. Don't be preoccupied with how someone experiences God, how they define family, who they love. Cultivate *your own* faith, family, and marriage." —John Pavlovitz

A Christian Argument for Progressive Taxation

April 15, 2009

Diana Butler Bass

Wednesday morning, at 9 a.m. sharp, I took my tax payment to the local post office. When I handed it to the clerk, she said, “I hate tax day.” I replied, “Not me. I don’t love parting with the money, but I kinda like it. That check is a bargain – roads, schools, medical care, social security, and the freedom of living in the greatest country in the world. It is patriotism by checkbook. Why should I hate it?” She replied, “Why, I’ve never heard anybody say that! It isn’t such a bad deal when you put it that way.”

No, taxes aren’t such a bad deal. Nor are they, as might have been heard at the ersatz “tea parties” around the country, at odds with Christianity. Indeed, tax day is a day that progressives should celebrate – as we participate in one of the greatest social reforms of the 20th century: the progressive income tax.

Writing in 1916, Professor Vida Scudder, a social gospel theologian (respected in her day and now largely forgotten), argued that:

The hour has come for Christian thought to give definite sanction to the new social ethic that has been developing for the last half century. The check by common will on private greed, the care for public health, the protection of childhood and manhood, the securing of fair leisure from the monotonies of modern labor, form a program hardly to be called radical any longer.

Part of the new social ethic was the idea of a progressive income tax, whereby the richer members of society would pay a greater share to care for those of lesser means. The progressive income tax was passed in 1913, but many Christians groused about it -- a bit like today’s conservative Christians holding “tea parties.”

Thus, progressive theologians developed a Christian argument for taxation. They believed that a progressive tax would increase the overall morality of society. For example, Scudder pointed out that “the Church, like her Master, is in a way more concerned over the spiritual state of the prosperous than over that of the poor” because the rich “countenance unbrotherly things.” In other words, the rich were not likely to practice Christian holiness. “It may be good for the soul of Patrick to subsist on a starvation wage,” she says of a hypothetical worker, “but it is very bad for the soul of Henry the mill-owner to pay him that wage.” Thus, the spiritual scales needed to somehow be equalized -- by Henry surrendering some portion of his wealth in order to better the lot of his brothers and sisters. “It is spiritual suicide for the possessors of privileges to rest,” Scudder argued, “until such privileges become the common lot. This truth is what the Church should hold relentlessly before men’s eyes; it is what makes indifference to social readjustments impossible to her shepherding love.” A progressive tax was an expression of Christian love.

Scudder pointed out that the income tax

does not attack private property, but merely limits it at a point far above what most people reach, and no Christian mind would surely stoop to the

meanness of claiming that it would unduly lessen incentive. It would deliver many men from fearful temptations -- a result for which we are told to pray.

And she went on to remind readers that, “Incidentally, non-Christian moralists are pleading for self-limitation in wealth as the next step in the higher ethics.”

The force of Scudder’s pro-tax argument was based in Jesus’ own teaching:

Now in view of Christ’s persistent feeling that it is dangerous to be rich -- a feeling that no subtle exegesis has ever succeeded in explaining away -- one might have expected to see His disciples, His Church, eagerly welcome the plan and press it with enthusiasm.

That, Scudder lamented, was not always the case. Although many progressive Christians understood the spiritual dimensions of taxation, other church people lagged behind. “Again,” she insisted, “no Christian can remain indifferent or non-partisan toward movements for the protection of the weak.” The church should -- and must -- be on the frontlines of social justice.

Sure, the progressive tax system hasn’t always delivered on its promises of social equity, people lie and cheat, and the tax codes need to be reformed. But I left the post office in a celebratory mood, went to Starbucks, and ordered a cup of tea. I raised my Earl Grey in salute to Vida Scudder and Uncle Sam. Happy Progressive Income Tax Day!

*** **We share this thought-provoking piece with you on PUCC Budget Sunday**

Diana Butler Bass is an award-winning author, popular speaker, inspiring preacher, and one of America’s most trusted commentators on religion and contemporary spirituality.

Diana’s passion is sharing great ideas to change lives and the world—a passion that ranges from informing the public about spiritual trends, challenging conventional narratives about religious practice, entering the fray of social media with spiritual wisdom and smart theology, and writing books to help readers see themselves, their place in history, and God differently. She does this with intelligence, joy, and a good dose of humor, leading well-known comedian John Fugelsang to dub her “iconic,” the late Marcus Borg to call her “spontaneous and always surprising,” and Glennon Doyle to praise her “razor-sharp mind” and “mystical heart.”

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, January 26, 2022

Celebrations

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

Pat & Bill Owens - moved to Mason Pointe on Wednesday...

13198 S. Outer 40 Rd; Apt 212; Town & Country, MO 63017.

Concerns

Cindy & Ralf, Andrew Wessel - Tyler's 20th Bday was last Sunday.

Sally Boughman - lingering back problems.

Conrad Damsgaard - up and down at Mason Pointe – now in Care Ctr.

Anne Doelger - very ill with cancer; hospice (sister of Doug Dischinger)

Steve and Andrea Barnes - preparing for his surgery on elbows and wrists due to nerve damage from sarcoidosis.

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

US Navy medical team coming to North St. Louis County hospital for COVID-19 surge assistance.

The political pressure in the Ukraine.

People of Tonga - recovering from volcano eruption and tsunami.

Continuing

George Lestina, Jim and Polly Winkelmann - healing and strengthening at home.

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

Don Luedloff - healing after recent hip surgery (Barry's Dad).

Pat & Janet - he is post-radiation/chemo (Skip Larson's son-in-law).

Scott - making progress at Shirley Ryan Ability Lab (Sieber).

Joan and Larry Brannigan - continuing health concerns for Larry.

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges... Bill has begun the lengthy prep process for extensive back surgery.

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.

Lizzie - awaiting liver transplant (niece of Barb Kuhlmann).

Scott Schmidt - paralysis after serious fall while hiking; some progress.

Mike Guthrie and Mary Guthrie - as Mike is ill (Stifel).

Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life.

Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Conrad Damsgaard - *Mason Pointe Care Ctr*; 13190 S. Outer 40 Rd; #1207; Town & Country, MO 63017; 636-236-9639 [birthdate: April 27]

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]

John Nourse *The Village at Cape Albeon*; 3300 Lake Bend Dr, #103; Valley Park, MO 63088 [birthdate: October 26]

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]

Dick Witte - *Meramec Bluffs Assisted Living*; 40 Meramec Trails Dr; Apt #104; Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-368-7324 [birthdate: March 25]

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 struggling with employment; healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC

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.

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... Peace and Justice near and far.

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending Jan 30 - **Church of the Master UCC**, Florissant;
cotm-ucc.org

Week of Feb 6 - **Christ the King UCC**, Florissant; ctk-ucc.org

4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Luke 4:21-30

Prophet on the Edge

Health and Human Service Sunday



This is the logo of Health and Human Service Sunday, which many churches celebrate today.

The logo shows a circle of hands of many colors reaching for each other. This circle of hands reminds us that we are all involved in the circle of care - sometimes giving, sometimes receiving, always included in some way in the circle.

In recent years we have begun to use the phrase “essential worker” to describe some workers whose work in the circle pandemic helped us realize we could not live without. As we honor essential workers on this day, we give

thanks for all who are involved in the circle of care.

“The UCC and its predecessor denominations courageously founded schools, hospitals, and orphanages during times of pandemic, war, and social upheaval. Now, there are more than 400 UCC affiliated health care centers, hospitals, affordable housing and retirement communities, transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness or domestic violence, and service centers for children, youth, families, and those with developmental disabilities. These ministries continue to show up in the most challenging circumstances—and do so with the fervor of healing and justice.”*

*“Council for Health and Human Service Ministries | Home.” CHHSM, www.chhsm.org/. Accessed 7 July 2021.