





www.parkwayucc.org Sunday, February 27, 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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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.

Today's flowers donated by Ellie Svenson in memory of John.

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 Image: Irises watercolor by Mona Herberg

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

3/3 YAKEL, Doug & Amy (32)

3/6 PILLAI, Janie & Anil (18)

Birthdays

2/27	MATTEUCCI, Tommy	3/3	CLIFFORD, Carol
2/27	ROESLER, Paul	3/3	HERPEL, Marv
2/28	WADDELL, Alek	3/3	POUNDS, Melissa
3/1	CHOSTNER, Angela	3/4	CARTER, Deb
3/1	HAACK, Bill		

Transfiguration Sunday

Sunday, February 27, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; they who follow Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life." ~John 8:12

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Prelude *Joyful!*—Ruth Elaine Schram, Based on Beethoven's *Hymn to Joy* and *St. Anne* by William Croft

Passing the Peace of Christ

Choral Introit I've Been to the Mountain—Mary Kay Beall/John Carter

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell



Scripture Exodus 34:29-35 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version) Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak together, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with God again.

*Call to Worship

One: O God, give us grace to lift up our eyes from the routine and everyday,

Many: To grasp a vision of your awesome creative majesty.

One: O God, give us grace to stand back from the friendships, family ties

Many: To see the worth of each person in the world.

One: O God, give us grace to lift up our eyes from "the way things have always been,"

Many: To see them transformed by your radiant presence.

One: O God, give us grace to carefully consider our priorities,

Many: And measure them against the priorities of wholeness and compassion highlighted for us in the words and ways of Jesus.

One: The view from the mountaintop is awe inspiring, but we cannot remain there.

Many: In our careful reflection and our deliberate living, we come down to the every day again.

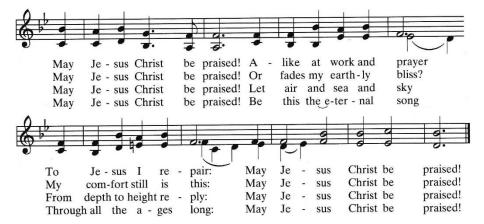
One: You are ready for new opportunities, new ventures, and fresh responsibilities. Pardon and peace are yours – and yours to share.

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

*Song When Morning Gilds the Skies #487



- 1. When morn ing gilds the skies, My heart a wak-ing cries:
 2. Does sad ness fill my mind? A sol-ace here I find:
- 3. Let earth's wide cir cle round In joy ful notes re sound:
- 4. Be this, while life is mine, My can ti cle di vine:



***Opening Prayer**

Holy One, on mountaintops and valleys below, you reveal to us the light of your love. Our heart's desire is to bask in your presence and to multiply your ways. With each encounter we are changed and transformed. Draw us nearer that we might receive a double portion of your Holy Spirit. Help us, Holy One, to live our lives as a reflection of your love. May we walk among our sisters and brothers as a blessing, bearing light into dark places, hope to displace despair, and love that casts out hate and indifference. Amen.

*Response

Praise God whose many names abound; Our Peace, our Rock, Our Holy Ground, Our Home, our All, Earth's Majesty, Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen.

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 This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine Let it shine, let it shine!

Scripture Luke 9:28-36 (CEB – Common English Bible)

About eight days after Jesus said these things, he took Peter, John, and James, and went up on a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes flashed white like lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him. They were clothed with heavenly splendor and spoke about Jesus' departure, which he would achieve in Jerusalem.

Peter and those with him were almost overcome by sleep, but they managed to stay awake and saw his glory as well as the two men with him.

As the two men were about to leave Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it's good that we're here. We should construct three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—but he didn't know what he was saying.

Peter was still speaking when a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud, they were overcome with awe. Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!" Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. They were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer Holy Ground #2272

Please sing twice through.

We are standing on holy ground And I know that there are angels all around Let us hear Jesus now We are standing in his presence on holy ground

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 Word of God in Human Language #2246



- 1. Word of God in hu man lan guage for this time and in our tongue,
- 2. Ev ery where the world is hun gry for the lib er a ting Word,
- 3. So God's voice con-tin ues speak-ing in the words we can't de ny,



tell a - new the age - less sto - ry, ev - er an-cient, ev - er young. food for spir - it as for bod - y, to be tast - ed, felt, and heard. sound-ing out a - cross the ag - es. Will we an-swer or de - fy?



May our hearts re-ceive the mes-sage of God's faith-ful, lov - ing care; It is thus the Word en-counters at God's own ap-point-ed hour, As the call be-comes still clear-er, wit-ness that the Word shall last,



may our lives re-spond in ac-tion, liv-ing deed and liv - ing prayer. bring-ing knowl-edge and per-cep-tion of true jus-tice, peace, and power. may we fol - low with com-mit-ment in the pres-ent as the past.

Offering Our Gifts to God *At the Elevation*—Gilbert Martin (1972) Cassie Rosenberger, flute

*Response

Praise God whose many names abound; Our Peace, our Rock, Our Holy Ground, Our Home, our All, Earth's Majesty, Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, as we share our gifts and graces, help us to shine a light on need and greed so that more generosity will flow. We want to be a part of solutions to the challenges and burdens of the day. Be with us as we stretch ourselves and spread more love. Amen.

*Song of Parting #2103—We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding





*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth

Postlude Lord Jesus, Thou Art Going Forth—arr. Albert Beck

White Privilege

When I call out your white privilege. I am not dismissing your presence in this struggle. Nor am I questioning your sincerity.

When I call out your white privilege.
I am not accusing you of the evil.
Nor am I separating you from its effects.
When I call out your white privilege.
I am not shrouding you in its shame.
Nor am I excusing you from its
responsibility or accountability.
When I call out your white privilege.
I am naming the target that is on your back.

I am acknowledging the ill effect of racism on your being.

I am joining you to the struggle in the only way that leads to liberation.
When I call out your white privilege.

I am acknowledging this privilege as being as unearned, unwarranted and incapacitating as the racist systems and structures that collude to oppress people of color all over this world.

When I call out your white privilege.

I sound the alarm of the danger that lurks in not being fully aware of the toxic waters in which we swim. Waters that make you feel as though you are breathing, so that you never come up for air.

When I call out your white privilege.

It is not because I believe you can remove it alone.

Not because I believe you can choose to use it or refuse it.

If these things were true...it would be privilege indeed.

But it is not.

It is a tool of the enemy designed to create an illusion of God divided against God's self. Crafted so that some might assume the idolatrous position of believing somehow that anyone created in the image of God could ever be inherently flawed.

When I call it out.

White Privilege.

It is not because I hate you.

It is not to separate you.

It is to remind you...and myself...that we are one.

~Pastor Traci Blackmon—former pastor of Christ the King UCC, St Louis... now serving as Minister of Justice & Witness Ministries in our United Church of Christ

Announcements

TODAY: Speaker Series

Select Sundays | 11:15am | Heritage Room & Zoom

Regrettably, our guest presenter, Gen. Raan is ill and unable to be with us today. We wish him a speedy recovery. In his place, we offer this undistinguished stand-in following worship In the Heritage Room:

Missouri Courtroom Evidence and the Search for the Truth – Reliable, Fair, and Common Sense or a Veil of Hyper Technical Nonsense and Obstruction? by Richard Scherrer

We are back on track in March with these impressive speakers: Maestro David Peek March 13 and Community College Religion Instructor Jan Worley March 20. Thanks for your support of our Speakers Series programs. **Zoom**: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwd0EzV0VHV1IyQT09

Meeting ID: 8469147 6997 | Passcode: 181565 | Dial (312) 626-6799

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue March 1

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

Please join Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue (TAD) for continued discussion on *No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)* by Kate Bowler, Associate Professor at Duke Divinity School.

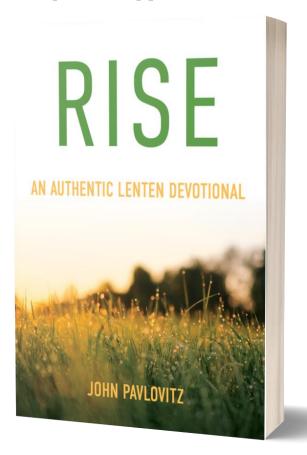
Kate Bowler believed that life was a series of unlimited choices, until she discovered, at age 35, that her body was wracked with cancer. In *No Cure for Being Human*, she searches for a way forward as she mines the wisdom (and absurdity) of today's "best life now" advice industry, which insists on exhausting positivity and on trying to convince us that we can out-eat, out-learn, and out-perform our humanness. We are, she finds, as fragile as the day we were born.

With dry wit and unflinching honesty, Kate Bowler grapples with her diagnosis, her ambition, and her faith as she tries to come to terms with her limitations in a culture that says anything is possible. She finds that we need one another if we're going to tell the truth: Life is beautiful and terrible, full of hope and despair and everything in between—and there's no cure for being human.

Ash Wednesday Worship 7pm in Historic Sanctuary

Worship with us this Wednesday, March 2 as we begin our Lenten Journey to Holy Week and Easter. We will have ashes (last year's palms) you may want placed on your forehead or on the back of your hand. We will hear Jesus' words about being more faithful as recorded in Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. Our theme for Lent is: *Jesus does. How about you?* We will also light our Lenten candles. Each time we worship during Lent, we will extinguish one candle as we get closer to the darkness of Good Friday. We will light all the candles again on Easter morning—as nothing can extinguish God's light or love!

Pick Up Your Copy of Our Lenten Devotional Today



In this new Lenten devotional, popular progressive Christian author John Pavlovitz once again takes us on a transformative spiritual journey.

Like the human experience, the spiritual journey is not a level path. It is about the falling and the rising. We allow our hopes to rise when we are in the middle of the struggle. We wait for the sun to rise, knowing that joy comes in the morning. We rise to our feet after falling to our knees in desperate prayer. We rise when we are knocked from our feet, persistent in this. We rise to meet the coming day, knowing we are held by a Love that will have the last word.

RISE is a 40-day journey of elevated hopes and ascending spirits. Each entry includes scripture, a reflection, and a prayer.

Pick up your complimentary copy from the round table in the Gathering Space today.

If you aren't here today, please let us know that you would like us to send one to you.

From Changing Diapers to Changing the World:

Why Moms Make Great Advocates and How to Get Started by Cynthia Changyit Levin

PUCCer Cindy has cared deeply about global poverty and hunger even before becoming a parent. But mothering her own children toughened her resolve to stand up for her values and work to become a better world for all kids.

The Pre-Sale for Cindy's book is officially open! Visit her new website at www.changyit.com to pre-order autographed and inscribed paperback copies for \$20.00 (plus shipping) to be mailed out on March 8, 2022. You can even order for friends and she will write a personal inscription for them, too! Just note the names you'd like her to write when you complete the order.

It's been a long journey of learning and she is delighted to share the fruits of her labor with you at last.

Questions? Contact cynthia@changyit.com; changyit.com; Twitter: @ccylevin

Every Day Inclusion: Right Here, Right Now!

Consider attending some or all of this free conference on Tuesday, March 1 and Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

Registration is open for the 2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Conference -- **Every Day Inclusion:** *Right Here, Right Now!*

"What can we do?" It is a common question in response to the social inequities that persist in our communities. The Webster University 2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Conference: Every Day Inclusion: Right Here, Right Now! will deliver immediate, practical, and impactful ways to practice everyday inclusion as individuals and institutions. We know that community exists wherever we come together under a common purpose or mission. We see the workplace, classroom, board room, and civic life—as community. Webster University is an agent of change for our students, our community, and for society. The DEI Conference is a key piece of that change strategy, and we've curated it with sessions from compelling thought leaders, interactive workshops and practical exercises that distinguish our conference as a bold and engaging departure from ineffective, boilerplate DEI trainings. The 2022 DEI Conference will be open to both in-person sessions on the Webster University Webster Groves campus and virtual attendance. The conference is FREE to all attendees, thanks to the generous support of our conference sponsors. Register here - https://events.bizzabo.com/380073

One of the reasons PUCC strives for diversty, equity and inclusion is because of the scriptural story of Pentecost (Acts 2)...

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability... Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

Habitat for Humanity St Louis

FEBRUARY 2022

WORKING TOGETHER SINCE 1994



Our UCC AUCTION
to support our
Habitat work in St.
Louis is just around
the corner now. When
Covid shut down Samuel's St.
Pat's Dinner for the third time.

an auction seemed like a fun way to raise money to build affordable housing in St. Louis with Habitat for Humanity.

Samuel would like you to join them and have some fun; raise dollars for our UCC Build with a virtual auction!

Think ahead, UCC partners, to what you as an individual or a church might donate to be auctioned off in MARCH St. Patrick's Day!

- a service from you or your company?
- a handmade needlework, quilt, painting?
- an adventure?
- a dessert of the month?
- an antique?

Your imagination will help make for a lot of fun and dollars!

So, send a picture and description of what you or your church might like to give. We already have more than 30 items: a truck load of great firewood, a few collector's items, gift certificate for restaurants and BEES, a sailing adventure, cardinal autographed hats, a pie of the month and more ...

Let Keith know: Keith.karau@gmail.com

UCC WORKDAYS

Because of Covid and other logistical problems, we are still waiting to schedule Spring workdays. Please be patient so that we safely work on the Habitat Houses shown on the first page. Our work is important and HabitatSTL values all that we have done together for the last 27 and now 28 years.

A few of the latest auction items







The Auction goes
Live on the
biddingowl.com/
Samuel on March 1.
The highest bidder
wins the item on St.
Patrick's Day at
8pm.

UCC Churches in our St Louis Association gave over \$95K in 2021! 2022 Donations must be made payable to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis to credit our local St. Louis Habitat House. Please consider being a part of this fundraiser and making sure more people have affordable housing in St Louis.

Prayer List as of Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Celebrations

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

Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle - Afghan family is here.

Concerns

Ellie Svenson - healing in STL after a mild stroke earlier this month.

John Nourse - recuperating from recent knee replacement surgery.

Sally Boughman - continued issues with back pain.

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

Val Weber - 101st Birthday recently; strength and patience as she recuperates from a mild stroke (Jim Winkelmann's mother).

Rogers Family - as Mike's mother Twila heals after a recent fall.

Mark McKenzie - healing after heart surgery (Tom's brother).

Judy White - upcoming cancer surgery (Sue McMillon).

Donna - healing (Dottie Dwyer's sister in Cape Girardeau).

Kevin Ceballos - sudden death of husband, Darryl Luffman (Schmelig).

David McCoy - mourning his daughter (Lucia McKenzie).

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

The political pressure in the Ukraine.

Natural disasters and deaths in Petropolis, Brazil.

Continuing

Gladys Sims and family - grieving/giving thanks for husband Russ.

Doug and Sally Dischinger - mourning/celebrating his sister Anne.

Angie Chostner and Family - grieving/giving thanks for brother Phil.

Harold and Carol Cobb - remembering his nephew Scott.

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

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).

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]

Glady Sims - Friendship Village - 15200 Village View Dr, #2418;

Chesterfield, MO 63017; 636-898-8873 [birthdate: July 4]

Pinky Wilcoxen - 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.

Peace and Justice near and far.

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending Feb 27 - Eden UCC, Affton; edenucc.org Week ending Mar 3 - Epiphany UCC, St Louis; epiphanyucc.org

Transfiguration Sunday

February 27, 2022

Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a) Astounding Glory Seminary Sunday Church Vocations Sunday

Too many young pastors arrive at their first call ill-equipped to handle the complexity of parish leadership in the twenty-first century. For the past decade, the Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI) has been changing that dynamic for the better, with a program of support and education for committed and transformative ministers under the age of 35.

According to their webpage, the vision of the NGLI is: Transforming younger local church pastors \rightarrow Transforming churches \rightarrow Transforming lives.

NGLI seeks to honor and challenge younger clergy who demonstrate significant potential, who have accepted the high calling to parish ministry, who view parish ministry as a career path, and are willing to make a long-term commitment to service in congregational settings of the United Church of Christ.

A transformational leader is one who, among other attributes, manifests the capacity to:

- Live a faith that shows love of God, trust in Jesus, and openness to the Holy Spirit
- Practice self-reflection
- Embody a contagious faith and hopeful confidence in sharing the good news of the Gospel with believers and non-believers
- Develop an entrepreneurial spirit
- Exhibit a commitment to continuous improvement in their personal and professional life, welcoming feedback and integrating awareness and insights
- Participate in a network of mutual care and learning with colleagues
- Articulate a personal vision/mission/core values statement for their life
- Engage with the congregation to develop a vision/mission/core values statement that will shape the congregation's life and vocation
- Create an environment in which effective engagement with peoples of diverse ethnicities and cultures is encouraged

Do you know, or are you yourself, a young pastor who could benefit from NGLI? Now is the time for both congregation and pastor to begin the discernment process on this vital ministry. Find out more at www.pbucc.org.