



All Are Precious In His Sight



www.parkwayucc.org
Sunday, June 26, 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.

Today's scripture reader: Evelyn Buretta

Today's flowers: Greg Schmelig in celebration of PRIDE month

Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer. A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop 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 all our media. Bulletin and eNews deadline is noon Monday.

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Mental Health Support

24/7 Crisis Hotline 800-273-8255 (TALK)

988 (new nationwide 3-digit number similar to 911)

800-SUICIDE: 800-784-2433

24/7 Missouri Department of Mental Health 800-811-4760

Text 741741 and someone will text right back... www.crisistextline.org

Behavioral Health Network of Greater St Louis 314-449-6713

Anniversaries

6/27 ROESLER, Paul & Stephanie Polster (30)

6/30 CONNORS, Dan & Lori (33)

7/2 RUTHERFORD, Polly & Mike (49)

Birthdays

6/27 SHELTON, Peter

6/29 DEUSER, June

6/30 WADDELL, Andrew

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 26, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation

We are a rainbow and we are a cloud, born of color and tears, of triumph and tragedy, feeding the arc of a moral universe that has trampled us, even as we decorate the damn thing and teach it how to bend. We are serious and sassy, glittery and grim, furious and filled with fear that fools itself into fabulosity.

Our greatest gift is the light of our color and the salt of our tears.

~Micah Bucey

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

(Prelude in) G minor—arr. Carlo Rossini

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song

We Are Called #2172, v2



- | | | | | | |
|----------|---------|-------------|-------|-------|----------|
| 1. Come! | Live in | the light! | _____ | Shine | with the |
| 2. Come! | O - pen | your heart! | _____ | Show | your |
| 3. Sing! | Sing | a new song! | _____ | Sing | of that |



joy and	the love of the	Lord! We are	called _____	to be
mer - cy	to all those in	fear! We are	called _____	to be
great day	when all will be	one! God will	reign, _____	and we'll



light for the	king-dom,	to live in the	free - dom	of the
hope for the	hope-less	so all ha - tred	and blind-ness	will
walk with each	oth - er	as sis - ters	and broth-ers	u -

Refrain

cit-y of God! _____
 be no more! _____ We are called to act with
 nit-ed in love! _____

jus-tice, _____ we are called to love ten-der-ly, _____

— we are called to serve one an-oth-er, _____ to

walk hum-bly with God! _____

Scripture Psalms 77, selected verses (CEB – Common English Bible)

I cry out loud to God—out loud so God can hear me! During the day when I'm in trouble I look for my Lord. At night my hands are still outstretched and don't grow numb; my whole being refuses to be comforted... But I will remember the Lord's deeds; yes, I will remember your wondrous acts from times long past. I will meditate on all your works; I will ponder your deeds. God, your way is holiness! Who is as great a god as you, God? You are the God who works wonders; you have demonstrated your strength among all peoples.

The waters saw you, God—the waters saw you and reeled! Even the deep depths shook! The clouds poured water, the skies cracked thunder; your arrows were flying all around! The crash of your thunder was in the swirling storm; lightning lit up the whole world; the earth shook and quaked.

Your way went straight through the sea; your pathways went right through the mighty waters. But your footprints left no trace! You led your people like sheep under the care of Moses and Aaron.

*Call to Worship The Flames of Love—Kimi Floyd Reisch

One: We light the flame of *commitment*, to stand with and work to create change, until all know they are beloved.

Many: **We light the flame of *survival*, grateful for our lives, remembering in love those lost along the road.**

One: We light the flame of *change*, committing to recenter toward love, in hearts, in minds, in our world.

Many: **We light the flame of *hope*, loving each other, building community, even when it is uncomfortable.**

One: We light the flame of *knowledge*, following the path of justice, justice that is love embodied.

Many: **We light this flame of *radical love*. To speak out for those who have been silenced. Those who have been rejected for who they love. Those who have been persecuted for who they are. Those who have been bullied for daring to be bold. Those who have been othered and forced into the margins. Those who have been lonely. Those who have been hurt. Those who are still hurting.**

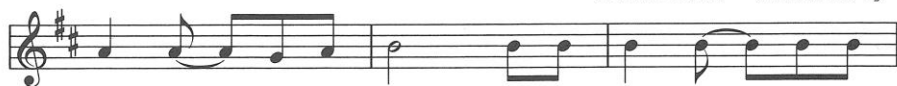
One: We light this flame as *a people committed*. We are survivors. We will change the world, until no one lives without hope, until no one lives without justice. We light this flame and pledge that in love, with love, and through love, all things are possible.

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

***Song** *Dream God's Dream*



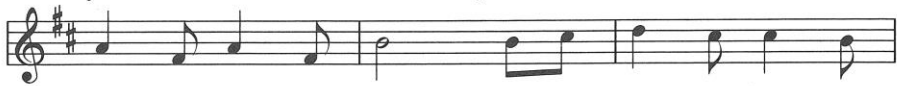
Dream God's dream! Ho-ly



Spir - it___ help us dream of a world where there is



jus - tice___ and where ev - 'ry one is free to



build and grow and love, and to sim - ply have e -



Last time to Coda

-nough. The world will change, when we dream God's dream.



1. I'm dream-ing___ of a world where the col - or of one's
2. I'm dream-ing___ of the call God is of - fer-ing to
3. I'm dream-ing___ of the way that I want my life to



skin will mean less than___ what's with - in the per - son's heart.
me, how to use my___ en - er - gy and my best gifts;
go. I've got hope and___ I've got goals I'd like to meet.

A world where wa - ter's clean and where
to do the work of Christ to say
I'm reach - ing for the stars, but I

air is safe to breathe. And ev - 'ry_ chi - ld
God, please use my life to spread Your_ heal - ing
won't for - get the scars of Christ who_ died to

born has e - nough to eat. dream.
love and to live Your truth.
show that the dream's for all.

Coda

*Opening Prayer *God of Love, Fiery Pillar*

Based on an ancient Celtic Prayer

As we kindle these flames, we pray that God's inclusive love lights and warms the world. We pray that no envy and malice, no hatred or fear, may smother these flames. May the spark of God's love light the love in our hearts, that they may burn brightly through the day and night. May the flames of love warm those who are lonely, those who feel rejected, those who feel cast out because of who they are or who they love. May these flames, flames of radical love, flames of the Open and Affirming movement, guide them here, guide them home into the arms of love. Amen.

*Response *Spirit of the Living God*

**Spirit of the living God fall afresh on us;
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on us.
Melt us, mold us, fill us, use us!
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on us.**

Children's Time Children are invited to Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time.

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 Galatians 5:1, 13-25 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, siblings; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become servants to one another.

For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace #2171*



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. _____



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev - er seek _____ so

much to be con-soled as to con-sole. To be
un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, to be
loved as to love with all my soul. D.C.

Prayers and 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 *Help Us Accept Each Other* #358

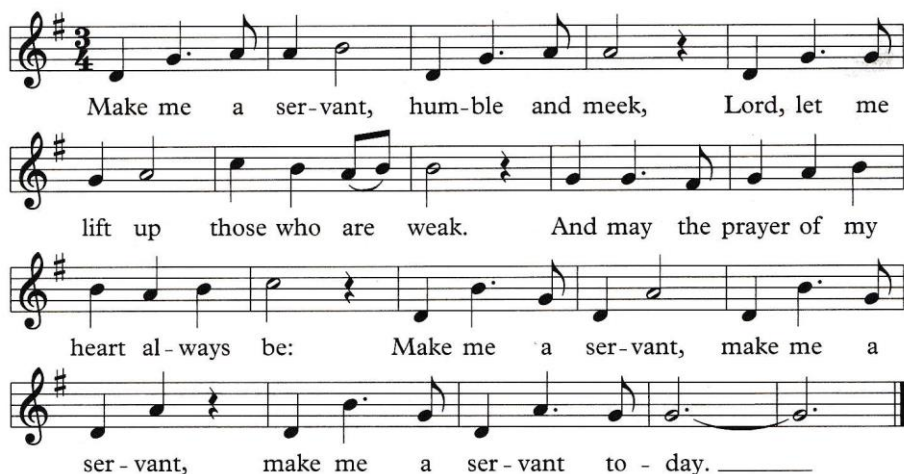
1. Help us ac-cept each oth-er As Christ ac-cept-ed us;
2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les-sons, As in our dai-ly life
3. Let Your ac-cep-tance change us, So that we may be moved
4. Lord, for to-day's en-coun-ters With all who are in need,
Teach us as sis-ter, broth-er, Each per-son to em-brace.
We strug-gle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

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude *I Love to Tell the Story* – anon. arrangement

Based on the tune by William G. Fischer.

*Response *Make Me a Servant*



Make me a ser-vant, hum-ble and meek, Lord, let me
lift up those who are weak. And may the prayer of my
heart al-ways be: Make me a ser-vant, make me a
ser-vant, make me a ser-vant to-day. _____

*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, you chose a rainbow as a sign of hope for the future of humanity and life on Earth. We praise you for the way the atmosphere during or after rain works together to create something as beautiful and bright as a rainbow. Thank you for the reds, oranges, yellows, greens, blues, indigos, and violets of the arcs of color across the sky. We also appreciate the other colors of nature, the browns, blacks, whites, silvers, and golds. Like the colors all around us, may we reflect some small measure of the breadth of your Grace to others. Amen.

*Song of Parting *Here I Am, Lord* #525



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My peo-ple cry.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My peo-ple's pain.
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep-est sin My hand will save.
I have wept for love of them, They turn a-way.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.



I who made the stars of night,
I will break their hearts of stone,
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide

I will make their dark-ness bright.
Give them hearts for love a - lone.
Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear My light to them?
I will speak My word to them.
I will give My life to them.

Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain
Unison



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard You call - ing in the night I will



go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your



peo - ple in my heart.

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Postlude in Ab Major—arr. Carlo Rossini*

Announcements

Speaker Series

TODAY! *Electric, Gas or Hybrid?* Kent Tallyn, presenter

June 26, 2022 | 11:15am - 12:15pm | Heritage Room & Zoom

Come to this Speakers Series presentation and learn the truth from our own Kent Tallyn, who is always faithful in presenting a comprehensive and informative presentation. Be smart, be conscientious, be an informed consumer and responsible steward of our resources and attend this program as you dream about and plan the purchase of your next car.

TODAY! Meet a friendly scent-tracking specialist!

June 26, 2022 | 2:00-3:00pm | Tappmeyer Homestead, 2 Barnes West Drive, Millennium Park (behind Barnes-Jewish West Hospital | FREE!

Frizbi, a 3-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer, and his partner Officer Phil Lane of the Creve Coeur Police Department, will be at Tappmeyer to answer questions and meet new friends. Learn about Frizbi's training and talents and talk with Officer Lane about their experiences. Children and adults welcome.

TED—Tuesday Evening Dialogue June 28

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:00pm Potluck | 7:00pm Book discussion | Heritage Room

We conclude our discussion of *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wells Kimmerer. Please join us. (Please use Harper entry at the back of the

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

School is out, many supplies are used up, and children will be taller by the end of summer. Let's help school children be ready for next fall. Parkway UCC is asked to provide 300 2-pocket folders for the Isaiah 58 Back-to-School event on July 30. Underwear and socks for any ages, small children through adult sizes would be most appreciated. We are also invited to host a game, activity booth, or resource table.

Isaiah 58 serves our neighbors in the Choteau, Jefferson, Cherokee, and S. Kingshighway boundaries. As you are able, please consider donating 2-pocket folders, socks, and underwear and place in the designated box in the church lobby by July 29. Contact Evelyn Buretta: burettaevelyn@gmail.com

Parkway Habitat Work Day Saturday, September 10 | 7:45am – 3:00pm

We have filled the four positions but alternates are welcome to sign up. Parkway has been assigned a work date for this year. Parkway will be allowed 4 workers for Saturday, September 10. Contact Tom McKenzie: mckenzie1947@att.net. Please consider donating to Habitat. Checks for our UCC Build should be made out to UCC HABITAT BUILD and sent to Tim Weaver c/o Samuel UCC, 320 N. Forsyth Blvd, Clayton 63105.



OPPORTUNITIES TO LIVE IN COVENANT

Your Open and Affirming congregation can help change the world!

Being an ONA Congregation isn't just about welcoming lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender seekers into a congregation. An Open and Affirming Covenant is a living commitment to speak out as a partner and ally to the concerns of LGBTQIA+ people, and enabling faith communities to put their faith into action by advocating in their wider community. This might include issues --

- for LGBT youth in your community, especially in public and charter schools where they face cyber bullying, verbal abuse, and physical assault.
- for eliminating harmful practices such as Conversion Therapy, especially for youth and young adults.
- for basic civil rights. Marriage was legalized for all people by the Supreme Court in 2015. However, the past four years have seen a push by the current administration to roll back that right and others.
- for LGBT seniors who aren't safe in their nursing and retirement homes, and who need the support of a church family.
- for transgender citizens who face discrimination in employment and housing, and whose basic medical needs aren't covered by health insurance.
- for LGBT refugees and asylum seekers who face persecution and imprisonment at home ... or worse.
- for the millions affected by HIV worldwide who are denied the treatment and medicines they need to live.

Your ONA congregation can make a difference—in your community, in your state, and beyond. Every small step you take towards justice and human rights brings us closer to the reign of God in which everyone is wanted, everyone is welcome, no one is left behind. Use these resources to open windows to new possibilities for ministry and mission for your church, and contact the Coalition if you need support!

Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ

(216) 736-3228; office@openandaffirming.org; ona@openandaffirming.org

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Celebrations

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

Brayden Michael Comens - born to Megan and David!

Pride Month - <https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/01/health/pride-month-explainer/index.html>

Concerns

Jim Winkelmann - hospitalized, undergoing tests.

Grieving and giving thanks for Barbara Kuhlmann -

<https://conta.cc/3QqJkQJ>

Naomi Runtz and family - as they remember Joe.

<https://www.boppchapel.com/obituaries/Joseph-Louis-Runtz?obId=25113794#/obituaryInfo>

Bill and Pat Owens - as Bill has back surgery today – Tuesday 6/21.

Steve & Andrea Barnes - home after hospitalization due to his Covid.

Bart Coleman - prep has begun for a heart procedure in July.

Marv Herpel - healing & gaining strength in a rehab center after a fall.

Joan Biest - chemotherapy treatment #6 of 6 was on June 9.

Josh - acute leukemia... he is very critical right now (Kathleen Tarr).

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 people of Uvalde, TX; Buffalo, NY and other places in pain.

The war in Ukraine.

Women's Justice issues.

The people of Afghanistan after recent deadly earthquake.

Continuing

Jackie - special needs adult battling Parkinson's, cancer, and dementia

Dusty & Lindsay; Matt & Kim - expecting babies with complications.

Sharon - struggling with many health issues (Gerry Rogers' cousin).

The Haack's neighbor - stage 4 cancer... single parent of a 2.5 yr old.

Sydney Palmgren - terminal cancer; mother of 2 yo (Becca's sister).

Janet Schoedinger - chemotherapy for 3rd cancer battle (Litzinger).

Lynda Ruby - living with cancer (Lindner).

Val - strength and patience (Jim Winkelmann's 101 year-old mother).

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges... Bill is in the midst of the lengthy prep process for extensive back surgery.

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

Ruth Peace & Pinky Wilcoxon - 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.

Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle - Afghan family in St Louis.

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending June 26 - **Carondelet UCC**, St. Louis; carondeletucc.com

Week ending July 3 - **Parkway UCC**, St Louis; parkwayucc.org

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]

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]

Gladys Sims - *Friendship Village - 15200 Village View Dr, #2418*; Chesterfield, MO 63017; 636-898-8873 [birthdate: July 4]

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

Lucia McKenzie and John Bieg - engaged to be married.

The Shelton Family - as Killian prepares to welcome a baby sister.

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.

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.

Peace and Justice near and far... **US Military** around the globe.

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 26, 2022

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Pick Up the Mantle

Open and Affirming Sunday

An elder and a younger man go on a journey. Finally, the elder says to the youngster, “You have come far enough. The rest of the journey, I will make myself.” The younger person persists, saying that he will continue to accompany the elder even if it is difficult. At last, the youngster has the honor of walking with the elder all the way to the end of his days. In so doing, the youngster receives a mantle that he can carry to the next generation.

On this Open and Affirming Sunday, we read the story of the elder prophet Elijah and his student Elisha. As we hear the story of this passing of the mantle, we pause to honor members of the LGBTQ community 65 years and older. If we are in that group of elders, how might we pass the mantle to the younger generation? And, if we are in a younger generation, how might we accompany our elders on the great journey that for all of us ends in being received into the arms of the Holy One?

There are at least two million lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people 65 and older in the U.S., and this population will double by the year 2030. Many LGBTQ seniors are isolated and lonely. Often subject to mistreatment in retirement communities and nursing homes, they need the resources churches can provide. The majority of these seniors have been alienated from organized religion for most of their lives: an Open and Affirming congregation can be a lifeline to community, understanding and respect.

An effective ministry for LGBTQ seniors is an opportunity for partnership with your LGBTQ community center and other welcoming churches and synagogues. If your church is the only LGBTQ-welcoming congregation in your community, and there is no LGBTQ community center, there are still likely to be LGBTQ seniors—most of them closeted—who can be reached if you publicly affirm your welcome.*

You can find resources and more ideas at openandaffirming.org

*“Seniors.” *UCC Open and Affirming Coalition*, 27 Dec. 2020, <https://openandaffirming.org/resources/seniors/>