





www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, September 11, 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: Jackie Eiffert

Today's flowers: Sue Stohr

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

988 (new nationwide 3-digit number similar to 911... call or text)

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

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

Birthdays

9/12 OEHLER, Grant

9/13 SABLEMAN, Mark

9/15 BOUGHMAN, Sally

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 11, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation *I work only with lost and founds.* ~Clarice Lispector

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 *Nearer, My God, to Thee*—arr. Robert Lau,

Based on the tune *Bethany*, by Lowell Mason

In remembrance of those lost in the attacks on 9/11

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *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 Luke 15:1-10 (MSG – The Message)

By this time a lot of men and women of questionable reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, “He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends.” Their grumbling triggered this story.

“Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn’t you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’ Count on it—there’s more joy in heaven over one sinner’s rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

“Or imagine a woman who has ten coins and loses one. Won’t she light a lamp and scour the house, looking in every nook and cranny until she finds it? And when she finds it you can be sure she’ll call her friends and neighbors: ‘Celebrate with me! I found my lost coin!’ Count on it—that’s the kind of party God’s angels throw every time one lost soul turns to God.”

*Call to Worship

One: Creator God, we gather together from many places, pasts and communities to celebrate and worship together, as your people.

Many: **We come to listen to God.**

One: Jesus, life-giver, we celebrate all that brings us together. We are on a journey, learning and celebrating.

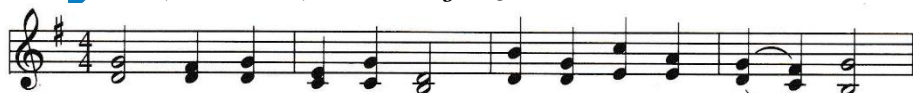
Many: We come to look to Jesus.

One: Spirit of love, we are a living community and we give thanks for the movements of the Spirit – ever inspiring, strengthening, moving and challenging us.

Many: We come to be infused by the Spirit.

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

***Song** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing #150*



1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore His throne re - joice;
He is our guide and friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;
On heav-en's bliss - ful shore His good - ness we'll a - dore,



Praise is His gra-cious choice; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
His love shall nev - er end; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

***Opening Prayer** Craig Mitchell

Holy One, we bring who we truly are—some weary, some energetic, some contented, some disquieted; some trusting, some doubting our questions and our certainties. We come with our achievements, our failures, our public selves, our hidden selves. We bring our dreams and visions; our despair, our yearnings. We come broken and blessed, made in God's image—and loved beyond measure. We come open to God's light and life among 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 Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time.

Blessing the Children *Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong**

**Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give, life and love to all who live**

Yes, Jesus loves me...

Scripture Luke 15:1-10 (CEB – Common English Bible)

All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

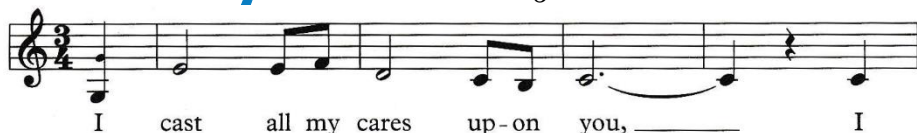
Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders. When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.

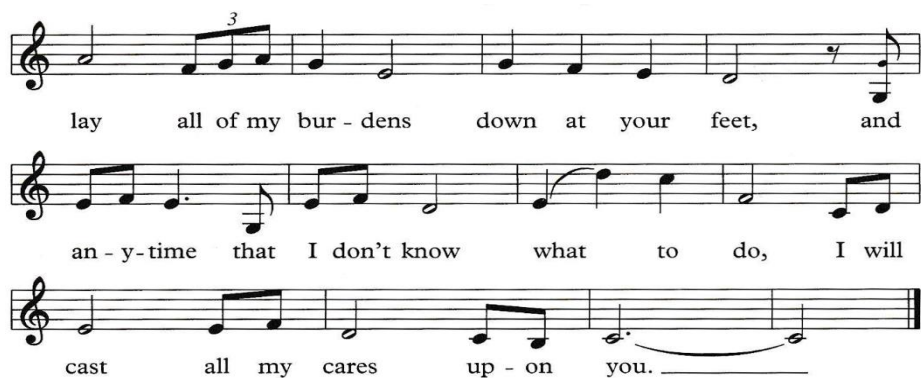
"Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it? When she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Cares Chorus #2215*





Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

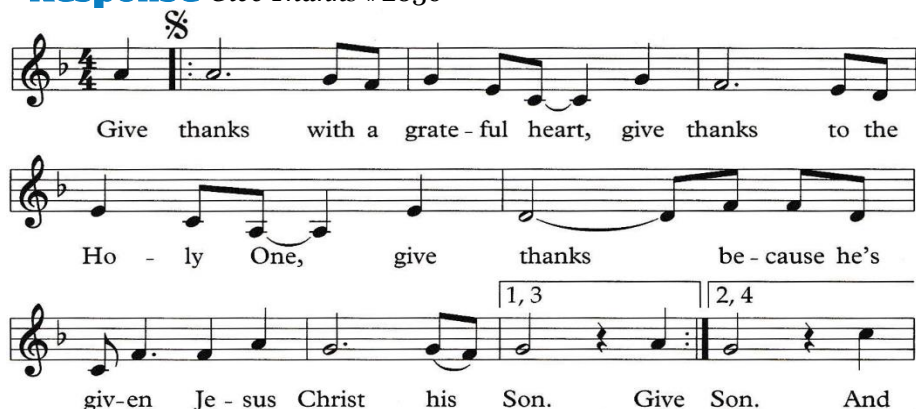
Offering Our Gifts to God

If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are also offering plates in the Gathering Space just outside the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.

Offering Anthem *Hear Us, O Lord*—Nancy Price and Don Besig
Sung by The Sanctuary Choir.

Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, sharing our joys, our troubles and our cares. Help us, O Lord, to be open to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

*Response *Give Thanks* #2036



now let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the
 poor say, "I am rich be-cause of what the Lord has
Last time to Coda 1, 3 2 D.S.
 done for us." And us." Give
 CODA
 us." Give thanks! _____

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, we want to be generous people. We want to notice where people are hungry, thirsty, lonely, afraid—and do something about it. We want to reach out with our gifts and graces. Fine tune us so that we can become more like Jesus as he found the lost, welcomed the stranger, served all. Amen.

*Song of Parting *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.



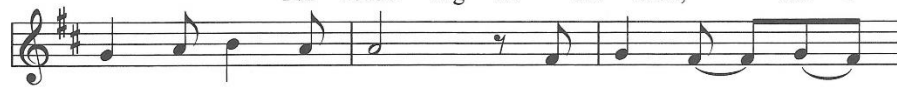
1. I'm dream-ing_ of a world where the col - or of one's
2. I'm dream-ing_ of the call God is of - fer-ing to
3. I'm dream-ing_ of the way that I want my life to



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.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Postlude *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*—arr. Lyndell Leatherman

Based on the traditional English melody *Deo Gratias*, ca. 1415

Announcements

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue September 13

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:00pm Potluck | 7:00pm Book discussion | Heritage Room
Our book selection is *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison. Originally written in 1970 and despite receiving multiple national awards, it was later banned in some school districts. It is the powerful story about a young African-American girl growing up in Ohio during the Great Depression. Racism, beauty vs ugliness, women and femininity, violence, sexuality and home/family are some of the themes brought out in the story.

It is a book of merit with compelling characters in a story that remains topical and timely. Join us as we discuss the first 100 pages of the book on Sept 13.

Contact Helen Race: raceh@att.net | 314-401-4382

September 18 Speaker Series: *City on a Hill*

Select Sundays | 11:30am – later than usual start | Heritage Room
Abram Van Engen has published widely, including his recent book, *City on the Hill, a History of American Exceptionalism*. The title of his book comes from Puritan John Winthrop's lecture, *A Model of Christian Charity* delivered on March 21, 1630 in Southampton before his first group of Massachusetts Bay colonists embarked on the ship Arbella to settle Boston.

In quoting Matthew's Gospel (5:14) in which Jesus warns, "a city on a hill cannot be hid," Winthrop warned his fellow Puritans that their new community would be "as a city upon a hill, the eyes of all people are upon us", meaning, if the Puritans failed to uphold their covenant with God, then their sins and errors would be exposed for all the world to see: "So that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken and so cause him to withdraw his present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword through the world".

Winthrop's lecture was forgotten for nearly two hundred years until the Massachusetts Historical Society published it in 1838. It remained an obscure reference for more than another century, when various scholars like Professor Van Engen corrected the record, explaining that there was no grand sense of destiny among the first Puritans to settle Boston. In truth, America's sense of destiny came generations later.

The Speakers Series staff thanks John Russell for introducing us to Professor Van Engen and arranging this appearance.

Attend All/Any Speaker Series on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkw0EzV0VHV1lyQT09>

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

Fall Speaker Series: *Because you have a story to tell.*

Continuing with its commitment to *educate and entertain*, the Parkway Speakers Series announces its Fall, 2022 programming.

September 18: *Understanding the Winthrop Sermon and its Links to American Exceptionalism and Christian Nationalism* by Abram Van Engen, Professor of Religion, Washington University.

September 25: *I Was So Captivated by the Blues Stanley Cup Season, that I Wrote a Book* by Mark Sophir.

October 2 & 9: *Learning to Hate, Choosing to Love* by Rev. Janice Springer (a two-part series).

November 6: *Keeping our Elections Honest* by Nancy Price, League of Women Voters.

November 13: *Return to Vietnam* by John Russell and Roger Fauss.

November 20: *Making Sense of Recent Supreme Court Decisions, and in Particular, Religious Freedom Cases* by Mark Sableman.

December 4: *Current Challenges of the Army in Recruiting and my Career as a Green Beret* by LTC Kirk Duncan.

December 18: *Parkway's Efforts to Help one Afghan Family* by Lisa Mason and Paige Penico.

Every day 10,000 children die
from hunger related causes

Our Mission:
Until ALL Are Fed

**To register or for
more information go to**
FeedTheNeedSTL.org

Feed The Need STL



We CAN do this St. Louis!

**3,800 Volunteers
Needed To Pack
1 Million Meals**

2,750 Kids fed for a year

**Sept. 8-11, 2022
Kennedy Rec Center
6050 Wells Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63128**

**Adults and kids (age 5 and up)
work together to
hand-pack FMSC
MannaPack meals**



**Packing Shifts are just 2 hours
and there is no cost to pack!**

AWOL - Adventurous Women Out Late

Sun. Sept 18 12:15pm - lunch nearby after 11:30am Speaker Series
Sat. Oct. 29 7:30pm - *Discover Hannah Gadsby* @ church
Sat. Nov. 12 5:30pm- Dinner at J. Gilberts Steaks + shopping at mall
Fri. Dec 16 6:30pm- Golden Globe nominated movie TBA Thurs.
Jan 26 matinee at the FOX Theater - *SIX* the musical
Contact Carmen Bumgarner: cfbum@charter.net | (314) 330-0813

Tower Grove Pride

September 24 & 25 | Tower Grove Park | STL, MO | www.towergrovepride.com
A community-powered independent Pride festival. We are LGBTQ+ centered with a broad mission to support and promote social justice for every disadvantaged, oppressed, or undervalued community. \

Featuring many local artists, crafters, small businesses, nonprofits and music. Sponsors, booths and performers signup:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044aabad2ba46-tower>

CROP Walk 2022

Sunday, October 2 | 4:30pm Check-in | 5:00pm Walk
Eden Seminary, 475 Lockwood Ave, in Webster Groves, Missouri
7:00pm Crop Concert | Wehrli Chapel

The 2022 CROP HUNGER WALK will be a hybrid event: You may walk in person or register for the walk and choose to walk wherever and whenever you want, individually or in small groups. For details and to register, raise fund and/or donate: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/saintlouismo>
Type in Parkway UCC where you may join the team or make a donation.
Sue Moellering and Pam Manning, Crop Walk Team

September 2022 Alzheimer's News

Dementia Conversations

When someone is showing signs of dementia, it's time to talk. Conversations with family about changing behaviors can be challenging and uncomfortable. This free program is presented in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association and features St. Luke's physician Dr. Byron Baptist. This event will be available in-person at St. Luke's Institute for Health Education auditorium or online, using the link emailed to you after you register.

Thursday, September 29 | 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Register now: tinyurl.com/dementia-convos

You can learn more by going to www.alz.org/help-support/resources or the Alzheimer's Helpline which is accessible 24/7 via 800-272-3900 and staffed by master's level clinicians to assist with crisis situations, decision making, and disease information. You can find virtual dementia caregiver resources online at alz.org/covid19help. Tools and support are also available in Spanish. Want to learn more about the Alzheimer's Association and what they do here in St. Louis? Visit alz.org and/or contact PUCC's Faith Outreach Ambassador with the Alzheimer's Association, Joyce Ruiz at joyceruiz7@gmail.com

Hymn for the Hurting Amanda Gorman

Everything hurts,
Our hearts shadowed and strange,
Minds made muddy and mute.
We carry tragedy, terrifying and true.
And yet none of it is new;
We knew it as home,
Horribly,
As inheritance.
Even our children
Cannot be children,
Can't be.

Everything hurts.
It's a hard time to be alive,
And even harder to stay that way.
We're burdened to live out these days,
While at the same time, blessed to outlive them.

This alarm is how we know
We must be altered —
That we must differ or die,
That we must triumph or try.
Thus while hate cannot be terminated,
It can be transformed
Into a love that lets us live.

May we not just grieve, but give:
May we not just ache, but act;
May our signed right to bear arms
Never blind our sight from shared harm;
May we choose our children over chaos.
May another innocent never be lost.

Maybe everything hurts,
Our hearts shadowed & strange.
But only when everything hurts
May everything change.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Celebrations

The Biest Family as they celebrated Emily's wedding last weekend.
All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far.

Concerns

Polly, family/friends of Jim Winkelmann - grieving/giving thanks;
<https://www.kutisfuneralhomes.com/winkelmann-james-allen/>
Rick & Chris Lindner and family - remembering Lynda, sis-in-law.
Bart Coleman - healing after successful heart surgery; to rehab soon.
Kris McKenzie, Linda Tossing, Amy Yakel, Cassie Rosenberger,
Gail Haack's brother and friend - healing after recent surgeries.
All impacted by Covid-19.

Continuing

Ella - healing from major back surgery (teen granddaughter of Biondos).
Patty and mom Estelle - as Patty receives hospice care (Pleis/Eiffert).
Mary Kay McKenzie - unable to communicate (sister of Tom's sister).
Frank Vogel - starting hospice care due to long term kidney disease.
Jackie - special needs adult battling Parkinson's, cancer, dementia.
Josh - receiving chemo; needs a bone marrow transplant (Tarr)
Sharon - variety of health challenges (Rogers).
Sue Linson - recently diagnosed with leukemia (McKenzie).
Mary Beth Anderson - health challenges; apt break-in (Brueggemann)
Dusty & Lindsay; Matt & Kim - expecting babies with complications.
The Haack's neighbor - stage 4 cancer... single parent of a 2.5 yr old.
Janet Schoedinger - chemotherapy for 3rd cancer battle (Litzinger).
Val - strength and patience (Jim Winkelmann's 101 year-old mother).
Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.
Cherie & Mike Stolze - her health; her father's kidney disease.
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.

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending September 11 - **St. Lukes UCC**, Imperial;
stlukesuccimperial.org
Week ending September 18 - **St. Mark UCC**, Arnold;
stmarkucc.org

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

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, #166; 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]

Naomi Runtz - 272 N Lindbergh Blvd; StL MO 63141; 34-993-0469 naomiruntz@sbcglobal.net [birthdate: August 30]

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

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

Brussee/Dario/Race Family as Skyler and Justin prep to be parents.

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.

Thank You!

The Haacks pass along sincere thanks from Gail's brother and sister-in-law (Doug and B.J.) to all those who offered prayers for his hip replacement surgery. He went home the next day and is recovering on pace.

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Growing in God's Love

Faith Formation Sunday

The COVID pandemic brought unavoidable change to everything, including our churches. Change can be difficult and one area of change that is especially challenging for many churches is in the area of faith formation. Recalling the “good old days” of over-full Sunday School rooms and thriving Vacation Bible School programs may seem preferable to facing today’s reality.

If your community is mourning the changes that have been thrust upon it, remember that most congregations also have the opportunity to choose how to change in the future. Even as we look back at what was, we can ground ourselves in the hope and joy of what is now. Now, more than ever, our world needs the United Church of Christ and our unique voice. How might that unique voice be expressed in all areas of your life, including in your children’s faith formation program?

If you are still using a pre-pandemic curriculum, it might be time to take stock and choose a change in your Sunday School or other children’s programming. As you do, take your time and make sure that this change is thoughtful.

Ask yourselves: What age children are part of your community now? How might you include families with children who are not able to attend worship services regularly in your curriculum plans? What is most important to emphasize with your congregation and children: Faith practices? Knowledge of scripture? Discipleship? Current affairs and issues? What is the best modality for your children and teachers: Art? Storytelling? Detailed lesson plans? Asking these questions and more will guide you towards the plan or program that will serve your children and your congregation in the present moment and into the future.

There are several excellent guides to a wide variety of Christian education curriculum online. The most comprehensive is compiled yearly by Episcopal priest Sharon Ely Pearson on her blog “Rows of Sharon”. Look around! The change you can choose is just around the corner!