

World Communion Sunday



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org
Sunday, October 2, 2022

Contents

- 3 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 10 Announcements
- 14 Prayer List

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

2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131 | 314-872-9330 [p] | 314-872-9014 [f]
parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org

Linda Tossing, *President of the Church Council* [puccpresident@parkwayucc.org]

Kevin Cameron, *Pastor* [kevin@parkwayucc.org]

Barry Luedloff, *Music Director* [barry@parkwayucc.org]

Mona Smith Herberg, *Office Administrator* [mona@parkwayucc.org]

Kathy Ferrell, *Office Assistant* [kathy@parkwayucc.org]

John Dwyer, *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org]

Dawn Friedmann, *Bookkeeper* [dawn@parkwayucc.org]

Julie Connors, *Nursery* [juliestl1992@yahoo.com]

Kim Livengood, *Church Historian* [historian@parkwayucc.org]

Joyce Ruiz, *Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador* [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com]

Polly Rutherford, *Environmental Justice/Sustainability Seekers* [pollyrutherford@gmail.com]

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: Alice Stifel

Today's flowers given by Jackie Eiffert in memory of Kenton Eiffert.

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

All word and service music reprint permission covered under CLLI License #2464265.

Cover photo: Lynn Sableman

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

Anniversaries

10/6 SCHULENBURG, Bill & Suzy (43)

Birthdays

10/2 CONNORS, Dan

10/6 WAITE, Linus

10/3 HILGEMAN, Kathy

10/7 LYONS, Brad

10/4 CAMERON, Iris

10/8 BIEST, Scott

10/6 DEGROOTE, Steve

10/8 SPERRY, Brenda

10/6 RUTHERFORD, Alicia

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 2, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation *We seek to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved.*

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 *An Ancient Prayer*— arr. Kevin Keil

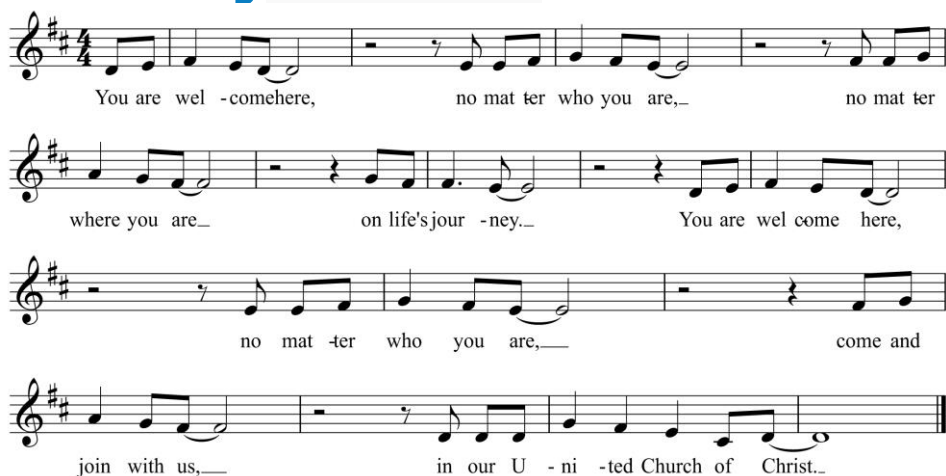
Based on Shibboleth Basadeh

Introit *We Are One*—Nancy Price & Don Besig

Sung by the 1st Sunday Choir

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *You Are Welcome Here*



Scripture Lamentations 3:19-26 (CEB -Common English Bible)

The memory of my suffering and homelessness is bitterness and poison. I can't help but remember and am depressed. I call all this to mind—therefore, I will wait. Certainly the faithful love of the Lord hasn't ended; certainly God's compassion isn't through! They are renewed every morning. Great is your faithfulness. I think: The Lord is my portion! Therefore, I'll wait for God. The Lord is good to those who hope, to the person who seeks God. It's good to wait in silence for the Lord's deliverance.

*Call to Worship

One: We are here together.

Many: In the name of Christ Jesus.

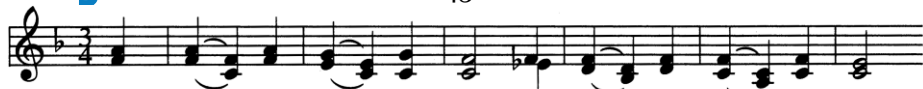
One: In the presence of an awesome, Holy Love.

Many: In the community of the saints gathered at your worldwide table.

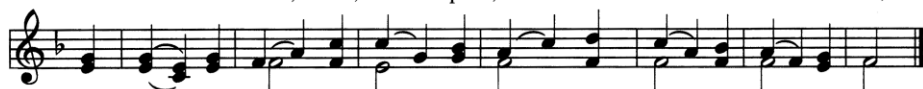
One: We come, one and all—equipped to achieve the impossible.

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

*Song *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* #438



1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2. Be - fore our Ma - ker's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
3. We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4. From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
And per - fect love and friend - ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*Opening Prayer

Holy God, you are the hope of all who seek you, and the joy of all who are found by you. Find us, we pray, in this Holy place.

Wherever we have been, whatever we have done, find us, reclaim us, and gather us back into your love and certainty. Weave us into the community of saints. Make our worship holy and blessed.

Grounded in you, let us love, enjoy and adore you. Through Christ Jesus our Lord. 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 *World Wide Christians*

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

Blessing the Children *Weave*

Weave, weave, weave us together

Weave us together in unity and love,

Weave, weave, weave us together

Weave us together, together in love.

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 Interlude *Living Streams*—Donna Williams

*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

Loving God, eternally reliable, coax us beyond assent to commitment, and beyond commitment to enthusiasm, and beyond enthusiasm to the utter pleasure of giving unmeasured love in places where only Christ's fools dare to tread. Accept these offerings as our part in our joyous, foolish, journey. Through your Son, Jesus our Brother and Savior. Amen.

Scripture Luke 17:5-10 (CEB—Common English Bible)

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. Would any of you say to your servant, who had just come in from the field after plowing or tending sheep, 'Come! Sit down for dinner'? Wouldn't you say instead, 'Fix my dinner. Put on the clothes of a table servant and wait on me while I eat and drink. After that, you can eat and drink'? You won't thank the servant because the servant did what you asked, will you? In the same way, when you have done everything required of you, you should say, 'We servants deserve no special praise. We have only done our duty.'"

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon *Fools or Planting Trees in Oceans*

Invitation to the Communion Table We invite *all* to this **open table**. All accepted—no exceptions—as we commit ourselves to limitless love, courageous action and spirited inquiry.

Communion Song *All Who Hunger* #2126



- 1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
- 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
- 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je-sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Let us pray...On this World Communion Sunday, we thank you God, the widest of schemers and grandest of dreamers, for calling us as siblings to all of God's children. We praise you for the variety of peoples and places of our world. We pray for reconciliation among your children. Cause us to listen that we may hear your Word and know that you are full of grace, even now;

Many: You are full of grace, O God, in Africa.

One: Africa. Where the church grows rapidly. Where faith is exuberant. Where a bright mosaic of culture shows the world the vibrancy of God's love.

Many: You are full of grace, O God, in Asia.

One: Asia. So vast, and so deeply rooted in tradition. Where the church may be small but where faith in you is great and strong against much opposition and oppression.

Many: You are full of grace, O God, in the Middle East.

One: Middle East. The cradle of the church; the birthplace of Jesus; the land we call holy. Where the children of Abraham live like siblings for better and sometimes worse, and where your presence is abundant in all.

All: You are full of grace, O God, in Europe.

One: Europe. With its Christian heritage, where art, music, and architecture inspired generation upon generation, where new buildings stand on ancient foundations, a testament to your unfailing presence.

Many: You are full of grace, O God, in Latin America.

One: Latin America. Where the church works valiantly for the weak and the poor. Where your church grows by leaps and bounds in lands so rich in the beauties of your creation.

Many: You are full of grace, O God, in North America.

One: North America. Where so much affluence hides so much poverty and disease. North America, the sometimes hollow land, with so much to give. May we be bold in the Spirit, but humble in our hearts. May we share God's grace in word and deed. May we assume the servant's role as Jesus did. May we share our blessings as the Samaritan did.

All: Even here, O God, even here at Parkway UCC.

One: At Parkway UCC, where we strive 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.

Many: Here, O God, and throughout all the earth, we trust in your abiding care.

One: God of wisdom, teach us respect. Help us to learn from those who express their faith in unfamiliar ways. Deepen our understanding of your love for all your people.

Many: Lift us above strife. Show us the places of injustice. Point us toward the pathway of peace. Show us your grace, even now;

One: God of grace, help us to believe and trust in your eternal promise and answer Jesus' prayer that all may be one in him, even now;

All: Even now. Amen.

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty,
the universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

***Breaking Bread & Pouring the Fruit of the Vine**

One: We remember that on the night of his betrayal, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also after supper, he took the cup, and after giving thanks to you, gave it to them and said, “Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Many: Christ had died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*Blessing the Elements

*Lord's Prayer

Sung to the tune by Nate Stout

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.]

*Sharing the Elements

Communion Interlude

Change My Heart, O God—Eddie Espinosa

Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true.

Change my heart Oh God, may I be like You.

Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true.

Change my heart Oh God, may I be like You.

You are the potter, I am the clay,

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true.

Change my heart Oh God, may I be like You.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the whole communion of saint's witness to this feast, and for the ministry of churches around the world who gather with us today. By this holy meal may we each be restored for the work yet to come. By this shared cup may we each be claimed for the proclamation of your Kingdom. At this shared table may we be united as children of your promise, children of your word, dying and made new again. Amen.

*Song of Parting

In Christ there is No East or West #439



1. In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north;
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev-ery-where Their high com-mu-nion find;
3. Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, What-e'er your race may be.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In Him meet south and north;



But one great fel - low - ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.
His ser - vice is the gold-en cord Close - bind-ing hu - man - kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God Are sure-ly kin to me.
All Christ-ly souls are one in Him Through-out the whole wide earth.

*Benediction

***Music for Going Forth** *Send Us Forth in Peace*—Art Gorman
Sung by the 1st Sunday Choir

Lord, we have your peace. LORD, WE HAVE YOUR PEACE.

Lord, we have your peace. Lord, we have your peace.

Just as you said we have heard it, just as you lived we have felt it.

Lord, we have your peace.

Sustain us in your peace, O Lord, as we go to our separate worlds.

Keep this peace with us as we try to love in our troubled worlds.

Send us forth in peace. Send us forth in peace,

To be a light, To show your beauty Forever!

*God's Light Goes Forth

***Postlude** *Voluntary in F*—Robert Lau

Announcements

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

Speaker Series October 2 and 9

Learning to Hate, Choosing to Love by Rev. Janice Springer

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

We are dismayed by the divisiveness and hostility that we see wherever we turn, and we feel powerless to do anything about it. Learning to hate comes easy; choosing to love is harder. Rev. Janice Springer will lead us as we explore how we might, more often choose to love. How can we create safe spaces so we and our opponents (our loved ones) might be willing to disarm? Join us as we share some practical tools and some surprising insights.

Rev. Janice Springer has served as a local church pastor for nearly 40 years. She is the author of two books including *I Know We're All Welcome at the Table, But Do I Have to Sit Next to You?* She has led workshops in the USA and Canada. Janice serves as a spiritual director and she is on the staff of University UCC in Missoula, Montana.

Attend All/Any Speaker Series on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHVTllyQT09>

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

TODAY: 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 | Wehrl Chapel

The 2022 CROP HUNGER WALK is a hybrid event: For details and to register, raise funds 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

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue 1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 2:00 – 3:00pm

Join us October 4th, 18th, and November 1st as we read *Travel As a Political Act: How to Leave Your Baggage Behind* by Rick Steves. In this illuminating collection of stories and lessons from the road, acclaimed travel writer Rick Steves shares a powerful message that resonates now more than ever.

Royalties from the sale of the book are donated to support the work of Bread for the World, a non-partisan organization working to end hunger at home and abroad.

Contact Jackie Eiffert: jeiffert2@gmail.com | 661-378-6781

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

Meeting ID: 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007 | **Dial:** (312) 626-6799

Vitality Reboot: Come for the Donuts, Leave with Vitality!

Saturday, October 8 | 9:00 – 11:15am | Fellowship Hall

The Vitality Team 2022 hosts a workshop to reboot and review the Vitality Process that began in 2017. We invite Council, Ministry Coordinators and Team Contact members, Commission Conveners, Ministry Participants, and all interested members to attend. We especially invite new members and visitors since Covid slowed us down.

The workshop convenes at 9:00 am for donuts, coffee, and juice. The meeting starts at 9:10 am. First, the Vitality Team will share introductions, review the history of Vitality, discuss celebrations of Vitality over the years, and look to the future for ideas. Then, attendees will break out into two separate groups for discussion. Finally, we will share ideas at the end.

Come and share the spirit of Parkway UCC, blessing us with joy and hope for the future. Contact Carol Cobb: ccjacob@aol.com | (314) 640-8166

Energy Awareness Presentation

Wednesday, October 12 | 6:30-7:30pm | Chesterfield Community Center

237 Chesterfield Mall—Located on the 2nd floor by Macy's

<https://www.chesterfield.mo.us/energy-awareness-presentation.html>

Join Mr. Marco Tipton from Ameren during Earth Science Week and Energy Awareness Month. Learn more about electrification, clean energy, and

reducing carbon footprints. Mr. Tipton will be covering solar plans for Missouri among other sustainability issues and topics. RSVP to recreation@chesterfield.mo.us or call 636.537.4000. RSVP is required by October 10.

A vibrant rainbow-colored poster for the 3rd Annual Drag Queen Bingo. The background is a gradient of rainbow colors. In the center is a photo of a drag queen with red hair and large hands. Text is arranged around the central image. Logos for the Open and Affirming Coalition and AllianceQ are in the top corners. A registration fee box is in the bottom left, and a hybrid event location box is in the bottom right. The date and time are prominently displayed on the right side.

**3RD ANNUAL
DRAG
QUEEN
BINGO**

**OCTOBER
15, 2022**

6:30 - 8:30 PM CST

To Benefit the Open & Affirming Ministries of the United Church of Christ & The Christian Church Disciples of Christ

**FEATURING
DESIRE
DECLYNE**

\$25 Registration Fee
Includes 5 Bingo cards
Separate emails needed for each player
<http://www.gatewayona.com/bingo-fundraiser-2022.html>
Register by Wednesday,
October 12, 2022

For additional Information:
Melissa: mhattman@att.net
Shawn: shawndeffern92@gmail.com

Hybrid Event:
Zoom or at
Parkway United Church of Christ
2841 N Ballas Rd,
St. Louis, MO 63131

<http://www.gatewayona.com/bingo-fundraiser-2022.html>

Month of Grace + Prayer: A Retreat in Everyday Life

Pray on your own 20 minutes each day and meet one-on-one with a spiritual companion one hour each week for four consecutive weeks. Starts October 16. Hosted in person at St. John United Church of Christ in St. Charles with a completely virtual option (Zoom or phone if you prefer). In person weekly meetings on Tuesdays (mornings, afternoons or evenings), while virtual meetings on any day and time that is convenient for you. This is an individually directed retreat tailored to your own deep desires. Committed couples also have the option to participate as a couple. All adults are welcome regardless of denomination or affiliation. For more information, visit www.momentsofgraceandprayer.org and to register contact Clarence Heller at clarenceheller@gmail.com.

Jesus Has Left the Building 2022 Coming to Parkway Soon!

Sunday, October 30 | 10:00am – 12:30pm (after a short service) | PUCG
Since October 30, 2022, falls on a fifth Sunday, JHLTB team organizers felt it would be timely to sponsor a Jesus Left the Building. Some projects are in the church, going out to support community members. Some are outside the church as you feel comfortable joining. After a brief worship service, we will disperse in the building and in places in the community to do Jesus' work.

The contact person is listed next to the opportunity. Sign up in the Gathering Space or contact the person listed. See you then!

- Raking Leaves and lawn work for church members who need assistance in their yards. -- Tom McKenzie - mckenzie1947@att.net
- Baking Cookies and Delivering them to first responders in the area. -- Carol Cobb - ccjcobb@aol.com
- Collecting and assembling Health Kits to be provided to SLA Conference-sponsored Festival of Sharing. Sign up to assist Sunday School kids in gathering. -- Marsha Peek - marshapeek31@gmail.com
- Raking leaves and lawn work at a nearby Emmaus Home! Bring gloves; they will provide the equipment. -- Laura Waite and family - steigerwaldlaura@gmail.com
- Assembling the Thanksgiving Boxes for Circle of Concern after Parkway UCC members donate the ingredients requested for each box. Lana Biondo - ljbiondo@yahoo.com
- Joining a group assisting Isaiah 58 Ministries with their food pantry. Some volunteers will walk up and down stairs several times. -- Kevin Cameron - kevin@parkwayucc.org
- Writing Notes and letters in Heritage Room or at home. -- Karen Nolte - karen.nolte@familyforwardmo.org

Sharing our Blessings at Thanksgiving: Circle of Concern's Thanksgiving Boxes

We have already started collecting the items for COC Thanksgiving boxes. We will organize and pack the boxes on October 30, 2022 during JLTB Sunday. The items needed include:

can of pumpkin, jellied cranberry, canned fruit, chicken or vegetable broth (32oz), boxed stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, turkey or chicken gravy (12-18 oz), cornbread muffin mix.

Please drop your items off at church anytime before October 30.

Our 620 client families thank you!

Contact Lana Biondo: ljbiondo@yahoo.com | (314) 712-8335

Trunk or Treat Sunday, October 30 | 6:00 – 7:00pm | Parking Lot

It's time for Trunk or Treat! This year we will feature games, hotdogs, popcorn and of course, a costume parade with lots of trunks and treats! If you would like to help, or have questions or suggestions, please contact Gerry Rogers at 314-434-7122 or e mail gcr123055@gmail.com Thank you!

1st Sunday Choir (Intergenerational)

Sings on the 1st Sunday of each Month, year around

9:00am—Gather in Sanctuary Choir Loft (to learn the song)

10:00am—Sing in the Service (then go to Sunday School or stay in worship)

Come join the FUN! Perfect for those who don't have time for a regular weekly rehearsal! This "one-and-done" choir is the easiest choir you've ever joined. We're intergenerational, open to adults, youth and children. The 1st Sunday Choir meets in the Choir Loft at 9:00am on the first Sunday of each month, year around, to learn a single, accessible song, which is then offered at the 10:00am service that same day. No experience necessary.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, September 28

Celebrations

TJ Schowalter & Elyse Gilliam - were married here over the weekend.
All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far.
The CROP Walk this Sunday.
The spirited actions toward freedom/justice in Iran and Russia.

Concerns

Polly Rutherford - healing of broken humerus and shoulder.
Bart Coleman - Ballwin Ridge Rehab, 1441 Charic Dr, Wildwood 63021
All impacted by Covid-19 – Ellie Svenson recuperating this week.
Ann - receiving hospice care (aunt of Kris Impastato).
Brooke - that she would find love and start a family of her own.
Tragic flooding in Pakistan.
The mistreatment of women in Iran.
All in path of Hurricane Ian and aftermath of Hurricane Fiona.

Continuing

Polly, family/friends of Jim Winkelmann - grieving/giving thanks;
<https://www.kutisfuneralhomes.com/winkelmann-james-allen/>
Patty and mom Estelle - as Patty receives hospice care (Pleis/Eiffert).
Mary Kay McKenzie - unable to communicate (Tom's sister).
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 October 2 - **St Martin's UCC**, Dittmer;

stmartinsuccdittmer.com

Week ending October 9 - **St. Paul UCC** (Giles), St. Louis; stpauluccstl.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

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.

17th Sunday after Pentecost

October 2, 2022

Psalm 137

Free to Grieve

Neighbors in Need Offering

World Communion Sunday

The psalm today begins with weeping, as God's people wonder how to sing God's song:

And so we hung up our harps,
there upon the willows.

For there our captors asked us for songs,
and our tormentors asked for mirth,

saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

How could we sing God's song in a foreign land?

In 1933, in a pause between the last century's world wars, the first World Communion Sunday was celebrated as a way to celebrate the interconnectedness of all Christians in all times and in all places. Today, 99 years later, the need for unity in our diversity is as great, or maybe greater, than it was in those fragile interwar years.

This mid-and-post-pandemic world in which we find ourselves is indeed a strange land, and we might be asking ourselves how we can sing God's songs of justice, love and unity? Hope can be found in *Gifts in Open Hands: More Worship Ideas for the Global Community* by Maren Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy. This book shares multicultural liturgies, prayers, affirmations, blessings, and poetry by people from the global community. Images for reproduction in church bulletins are included, and a new feature is the arrangement of translations so that liturgies in other languages are available to English-speaking as well as bilingual worship planners. You can find that resource, and many more at The Pilgrim Press website, thepilgrimpress.com.

Today many UCC congregations receive the Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering. This special mission offering of the United Church of Christ supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities. Find more at the United Church of Christ website, ucc.org.