





www.parkwayucc.org

April 16, 2023

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and 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.

Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop work and join in prayer.

Scripture Reader Susan Moellering

Today's Flowers Linda Tossing in memory of her husband Bill Tossing

Subscribe to our email lists: Sign up at www.parkwayucc.org

All word and service music reprint permission covered under CLLI License #2464265; CLLI Streaming License #21357331

Photos/Videos Please be aware that our worship services are video recorded, streamed live on Facebook Live, and made available for later viewing through that service.

Photos should generally not be taken of children in church except as part of organized activities and programs, and any requests of children or their parents or guardians should be respected. Please be respectful of privacy and mindful that this is a safe and sacred space for all who enter.

Media uploads: <https://tinyurl.com/PUCmedia>

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

4/21 DOMBEK, Charles & Claire (44)

Birthdays

4/16 DOTY, Alexander
4/16 TALLYN, April
4/16 WADDELL, Sheila
4/16 YESS, Kari

4/19 CARTER, Cameron
4/19 RUSSELL, Carol
4/19 TOOMBS IV, Gene
4/20 BYERLY, Rachel

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 16, 2023 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation *Easter is not a passport to another world; it is a duality of perception for this one.* ~WP Lemon

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 *Song of the Morning*—Robert J. Hughes

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *Halle, Halle, Halleluja* #2026



Scripture Psalm 16 (CEB – Common English Bible)

Protect me, God, because I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord. Apart from you, I have nothing good.” Now as for the ‘holy ones’ in the land, the ‘magnificent ones’ that I was so happy about; let their suffering increase because they hurried after a different god. I won’t participate in their blood offerings; I won’t let their names cross my lips.

You, Lord, are my portion, my cup; you control my destiny. The property lines have fallen beautifully for me; yes, I have a lovely home. I will bless the Lord who advises me; even at night I am instructed in the depths of my mind. I always put the Lord in front of me; I will not stumble because God is on my right side. That’s why my heart celebrates and my mood is joyous; yes, my whole body will rest in safety because you won’t abandon my life to the grave; you won’t let your faithful follower see the pit. You teach me the way of life. In your presence is total celebration. Beautiful things are always in your right hand.

***Call to Worship** based on A Seed Psalm by Ed Hayes

One: Awaken, you buried seeds asleep in your earthen tombs.
Rise up with joy to break forth the hard coffins of your shells.

Many: Your Easter time has come; the song of the dove is heard over the softening land.

One: Winter has hidden, and spring now dances on your graves to waken the dead.

Many: Awaken, seeds of holiness buried deep within me. Rise up to fulfill your destiny whose time has come.

One: For sanctity is scribbled bold within my body and brain.
Onward and beyond have I been called even before I felt the sun or knew the earth around me.

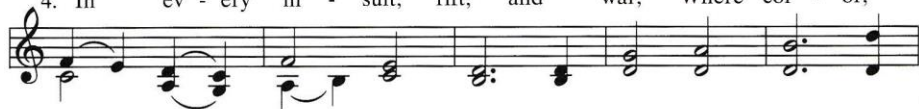
Many: May spring enchant the saint, shy and hesitant within me and set the rhythm for my sluggish feet in a dance of holy yearning.

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

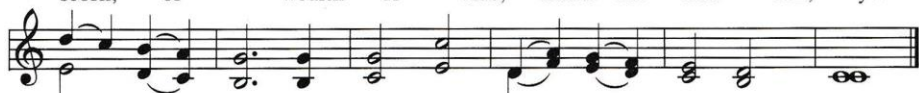
***Song** *Christ is Alive! #108*



1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2. Christ is a - live! No long - er bound To dis - tant
3. Not throned a - far, re - mote - ly high, Un - touched, un -
4. In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, Where col - or,



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, But sav - ing, heal - ing,
moved by hu - man pains, But dai - ly, in the
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, And touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
midst of life, Our Sav - ior in the God-head reigns.
loves the more, And lives, where ev - en hope has died.

5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring Till earth and sky and ocean ring
Good news to this and every age, With joy, with justice, love, and praise.

*Opening Prayer

Holy One, every morning is Easter morning from now on. Help us to be swept up in the good news - the impossible that became possible. We are eager to be a part of what you are about to do next. 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. Please meet your child/youth in the Gathering Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship - as the teachers will bring them there after class.

Blessing the Children *Every Morning is Easter Morning*

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Daily news is so bad it seems the Good News seldom gets heard.

Get it straight from the Easter People:

God's in charge! Spread the word!

Refrain

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

**Ev'ry morning is Easter morning, Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning *from now on!***

Words © 1972 Hope Publishing Company, 380 S Main Pl, Carol Stream, IL 60188

Scripture John 20:19-31 (CEB – Common English Bible)

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As God has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

Response *When Thomas Heard from Jesus*—Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Tune: The Church’s One Foundation

1. When Thom-as heard from Je - sus, "Now come and fol - low me," he
2. When Je - sus spoke of heav - en, bold Thom-as dared to say, "We
3. When crowds be - gan to mur - mur and lead - ers raised their cry, brave
4. What joy on Eas - ter eve - ning when man - y saw the Lord! Yet
5. That man of faith saw Je - sus at break-fast by the sea; at
sure - ly went with glad - ness, for there was much to see. He
don't know where you're go - ing! How can we know the way?" He
Thom - as spoke out firm - ly, "Let's go with him and die." He
Thom - as was not with them and would not trust their word. When
Pen - te - cost he wit - nessed so oth - ers would be - lieve. O
wit-nessed Je - sus' teach - ing and saw his heal - ing touch; he
want - ed un - der - stand - ing of what he could not see. Then
ate at Je - sus' ta - ble, par - tak - ing wine and bread; yet
Christ ap-peared be - fore him, his doubts were quick - ly gone; he
Lord, may we, like Thom - as, keep grow - ing day by day; in -
found a faith to guide him, a friend he loved so much.
Je - sus re - as - sured him, "The way is here, through me."
lat - er with the oth - ers, he saw the cross and fled.
glad - ly knew that eve - ning the joy of Eas - ter dawn.
crease our faith and guide us, for Lord, you are the Way.

Sermon

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.]

Invitation to Prayer *The Climate is Changing*

Tune: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1. The cli - mate is chang - ing! Cre - a - tion cries out!
2. We pray for the a - ni - mals here in our midst
3. We thank you for peo - ple who trea - sure the earth,
4. We thank you for lead - ers, cou - ra - geous and brave,
5. You love this good earth, and you sent us your Son!

Your peo - ple face flood - ing and fire — and drought.
who can - not de - fend their own right to ex - ist.
whose faith has long taught them its beau - ty and worth.
May we know that the earth is worth fight - ing to save,
May we love our neigh - bors— there's work to be done.

We see the great heat waves and storms at their worst.
We pray for the moun - tains and fo - rests and seas
We thank you as well for the chil - dren and youth
who care a - bout jus - tice and what they should do,
May we, by your Spi - rit, do all in our power

We pray for the poor, Lord— for they suf - fer first.
that bear the harsh foot - print of our hu - man greed.
who look to the fu - ture and speak out the truth.
who lis - ten to sci - ence and work hard for you.
to care for your earth in this cri - ti - cal hour.

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

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 *Gentle Shepherd*—arr. Kevin Keil

Based on the traditional Irish melody St. Columbia

*Response

Praise God for love we all may share.

Praise God for beauty everywhere.

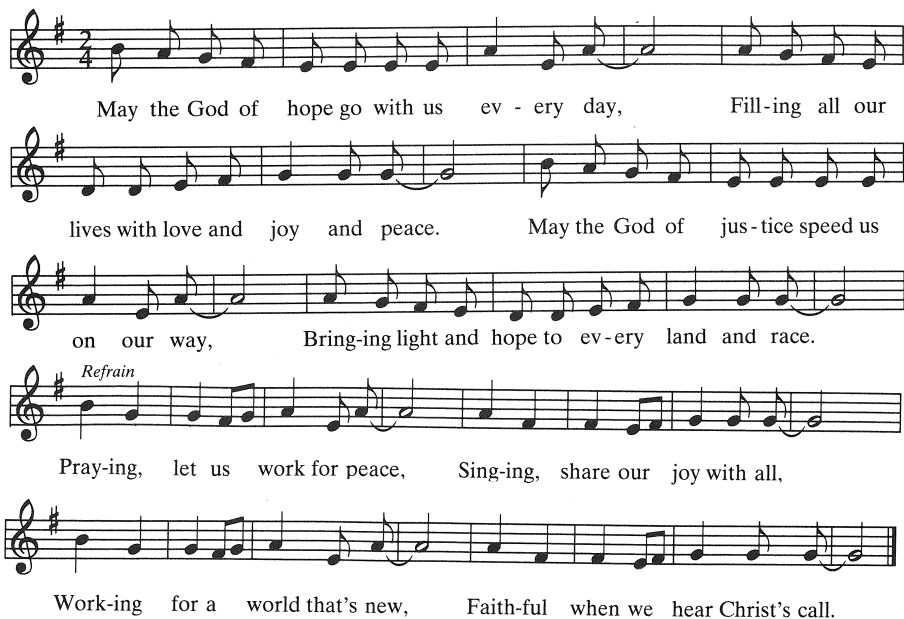
Praise God for hope of good to be.

Praise God for truth that makes us free.

*Prayer of Dedication

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source of hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Song of Parting *Song of Hope #432*



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, Fill-ing all our
lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus-tice speed us
on our way, Bring-ing light and hope to ev-ery land and race.
Refrain
Pray-ing, let us work for peace, Sing-ing, share our joy with all,
Work-ing for a world that's new, Faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.

Keep a prayer within your heart throughout the day
Hope is always there for those who trust the Lord
Give your time and comfort in a simple way
Call for justice, hope will surely be restored.

Giving, use our gifts with love, Helping, for the ones in need,
Striving, for equality; Justice, when the need demands.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Postlude Improvisations on familiar Easter hymn tunes

Announcements

TODAY Speaker Series: *Adventures in Cuba; Lifting the Veil; What We Saw and Learned.*

Sunday, April 16 | 11:15am – 12:15pm | Heritage Room & Zoom

SPECIAL SPEAKERS Gerry and Mike Rogers, Sue Moellering, Pam Manning, and Judy Connolley.

Cuba is home to over 11 million people. Its culture, and customs draw from diverse sources, such as the aboriginal, Taíno and Oboney peoples, the period of Spanish colonialism, the introduction of African slaves, and its proximity to the United States.

Get first-hand info on from several Parkway and Peace church members and their entourage that traveled to Cuba—including Gerry and Mike Rogers, Sue Moellering, Pam Manning, and Judy Connolley—about their Cuban experience.

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1lyQTO9#success>

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

4/18–5/16 Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue (TAD) New Book: *This is How it Always Is*

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 2:00-3:00pm | Online Book Discussion

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWw4yZUYwUT09\(312\)626-6799](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWw4yZUYwUT09(312)626-6799) | **Meeting ID:** 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007

Join with TAD as we read and discuss *This Is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel. Frankel spins a tale of a typical modern family who learns to navigate life with a transgender child. Although fiction, it brings awareness to some of the issues that families face. This wise and often funny novel is a compassionate lesson in discovering and welcoming what makes each person unique. Contact Jackie Eiffert: jeiffert2@gmail.com | (661) 378-6781

Parkway Adventurers Have a Chance to Color Their Way Through St. Louis

Thursday, April 20 | 9:35am

The kickoff trip for the new Parkway Adventurers Group has the group heading to The St. Louis History Museum for the special exhibit: *Coloring STL* featuring an interactive display on architecture and design in the St. Louis area.

Meet at Parkway for carpooling at 9:35am or meet at the museum at 10:05 am. We will have lunch following at a “fine dining establishment” nearby. RSVP to Harold and Carol Cobb. ccjobb@aol.com or 314 965-4147.

4/25–Tuesday Evening Dialogue (TED)

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00-8:00pm Discussion | Heritage Room

Please join us on Tuesday April 25 for our wrap up session on Disability Visibility by Alice Wong. The evening's discussion will cover the chapter entitled Six Ways of Looking at Crip Time to the end of the book. This book is

a collection of personal essays written by people living with a disability and highlights the passions, talents and everyday lives of this community. It is an eye-opening read and invites readers to question their own understandings and perception. Since this is our final session with this book we will also be looking at choices for our next book selection on this evening. Helen Race: raceh@att.net | 314-401-4382

Faith Climate Action Week April 14—23

Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) will host a webinar conversation with the filmmaker, Roger Sorkin, on April 17 at 1:00pm. Webinar registration opens April 4: <https://tinyurl.com/current-revolution>

These films illustrate this year's Faith Climate Action Week theme: *Living the Golden Rule: Just Transition to a Clean Energy Economy*. The theme examines our responsibility to transition to energy sources that are sustainable and healthy for our communities and our sacred Earth.

This is a series of 3 short documentaries:

Current Revolution—a Film Series for the Energy Transition

EPISODE 1—*The Transformation Cannot Be Stopped*

EPISODE 2—*Nation in Transition*

EPISODE 3—*Workforce Rising*

Watch the film's trailers and read a description at Current Revolution: American Resilience Project— <https://tinyurl.com/current-revolution-homewatch>

More info? Contact Polly Rutherford: pollyrutherford@gmail.com

Youth trip to Elephant Rocks LAST CHANCE TO VOTE ON SCHEDULING! A date will be scheduled this week. One of Missouri's most interactive state parks, Elephant Rocks is a giant pile of pink granite boulders just begging to be climbed on. The youth will be heading to the park, near Middle Brook, Missouri, about 90 minutes south of the church, in April or May. Take a moment to vote in this Doodle poll — <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/boZN8NBa> — to indicate which Saturday or Sunday works best for the youth(s) in your house. We'll pick a main date and a rain date based on when the most youth can attend. Departure times will be 10:00am on Saturday or 11:15am (immediately after church) on Sunday. Pack a sack lunch, your climbing shoes, and plenty of water. We'll return 6-7 hours after departure.

Are you a parent interested in driving or tagging along? Join in the poll yourself! Need more information? Contact Brad Lyons at brad@bradlyons.net.

4/23 Speaker Series: *Current Challenges of the Army in Recruiting Able Soldiers* by LTC Kirk Duncan.

Sunday, April 23 | 11:15am - 12:15pm | Live in the Heritage Room & Zoom

Kirk Duncan is a US Army Lieutenant Colonial, who served during a significant part of his career as a Green Beret. Currently, LTC Duncan is assigned to US Army Recruiting Command, whose mission is to keep the

Army combat ready with a constant flow of qualified recruits. He will describe the challenges of his critically important duties and, subject to security restrictions, talk about his time in the Army, including three combat deployments to Iraq.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1lyQT09>

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

Special Olympics Annual Track and Field Event—Be a Buddy

Saturday, April 29 | 8:30pm-3:00pm

Westminster Christian Academy -- 800 Maryville Centre Dr, Chesterfield, MO
Being an “Athlete Buddy” at the Special Olympics Track and Field Day is the most rewarding volunteer job of all time! You will be paired directly with 1-2 athletes. You are required to spend the entire day together, accompanying them to each of their events to ensure they are on time and cheer for them as they compete, eat lunch together and visit Victory Village. Note: Due to the nature of this job you MUST be over the age of 16 (or directly accompanied by someone who is) and MUST be able to commit to this job for the entire day or until your athlete leaves after their competition.

PUCC has committed to sending 10 Athlete Buddies.

(PUCC kids/youth under 16 can do with this their parent or other adult)

Questions? Want to talk with someone who has done this previously?

Ready to sign up? kevin@parkwayucc.org | 314-872-9330

If there is anyone who would like to split the day, please let us know that. You will want to bring a hat, sunblock and water. You will receive a volunteer t-shirt to wear all day. Bagged lunches will be pre-prepared for all volunteers and athletes.

This Faith Family is Growing—New Member Sunday

Sunday, April 30 | During Worship

We will be welcoming new members into the mission and ministry of this church on Sunday, April 30 during worship. If this is something you might be interested in or would like more information, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org | 314-872-9330

5/7—Bread for the World Offering of Letters: Writing letters to Congress

Sunday, May 7 | 10:45-11:45am | Gathering Space

Each year, Bread’s Offering of Letters campaign engages churches in writing personalized letters to Congress on issues related to hunger in the U.S. and around the world. Join us after worship Sunday, May 7 to write short, handwritten letters asking our U.S. senators and representatives to include policies in this year’s Farm Bill reauthorization that will bring nutrition access to those that need it most in America.

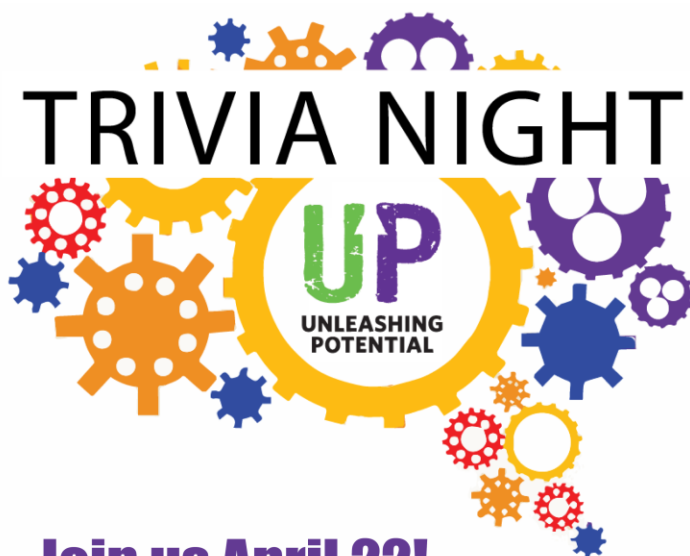
We will collect these letters and present them as an offering to God before delivering them to Congress. Hundreds of Offerings of Letters are held each year, resulting in tens of thousands of letters. Over the years, these letters and emails have helped inspire our leaders in Washington, D.C., to pass legislative victories that have impacted millions of people!

5/13—Camp MoVal Workday Sat, May 13 | 8:00am-4:00pm

Meet at Parkway at 8:00 a.m., arrive at Camp MoVal at 9:00 a.m.. We will stay through lunch (provided by the camp) and leave MoVal at 3:00 to return to Parkway at 4:00. If individuals would prefer to drive themselves, that is fine as well. Please let Doug or Amy Yakel know (da_yakel@att.net | (314) 275-8039), so that the camp can plan accordingly.

7/29—Habitat for Humanity Workday: Parkway's Chance to Shine Again | 7:45am start time

Parkway's annual build date with Habitat for Humanity St. Louis has been set. Saturday July 29, 2023. There are spaces for 5 volunteers available, and the minimum age is 16 yr. We always have a full crew, so please register soon. Questions? Contact Tom McKenzie at mckenzie1947@att.net or 314-567-0429. The spaces fill quickly, so don't hesitate to sign up. No need to bring tools other than your heart and your hands.



Join us April 22!

Doors: 6 p.m.

Trivia: 7 p.m.

Cost:

\$250 Regular Table of 10

\$300 VIP Table of 10

Sunset Hills Community Center

3915 S. Lindbergh

Sunset Hills, Mo.

If you are interested in a table, register at <https://bit.ly/3IRoHu3>



Prayer List

as of Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Celebrations

Easter!

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

Ramadan Mubarak to our Muslim fam/friends - incl TASOM.

Chag Pesach Sameach to our Jewish fam/friends - incl Shaare Emeth.

Spring beauty.

Erin Frick & Rob Zander and big sister Clara welcoming baby 4/9!

Concerns

Christopher Pickett and Family as they grieve and give thanks for his mother; memorial service will take place here on Saturday, April 22.

John Mueller - for healing as doctors figure out his illness (Jean's son).

Cassie Rosenberger's mother Martha - cancer treatments restarted.

The continuing war in Ukraine.

The grief in Louisville after gun deaths yesterday.

Continuing

Peter LaSalle - healing and strengthening.

Joseph Miller - home after hospitalization & rehab (son of Deb Carter).

Tito - nephew of Mike & Lisa Mason in rehab after paralyzing stroke.

Tom - healing after surgery due to car accident (Kathleen Tarr nephew).

Barb - complications with cancer tx and at odds with insurance co (Tarr)

6 month-old **Baby Woodson** - healing after heart transplant (Yakel).

The devastating earthquakes in Turkey & Syria

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

Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.

Gail, Bill and Christopher Haack - chronic health challenges.

Jan - experiencing dementia (great-grandma of Coree Mix).

Angie - living with Hodgkin's Lymphoma (Rosenberger).

Matt Albers - 3rd round chemotherapy soon (Connors' friend's son).

Theresa - surgery/treatment/recovery - aggressive cancer (Schwarz).

Patty - doing ok in hospice care; grieving mother's death (Pleis/Eiffert).

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

Sharon - variety of health challenges (Rogers).

Brooke - that she would find love and start a family of her own.

Val - strength and patience (Jim Winkelmann's 102 year-old mother).

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-Centered/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]

David Smith - *Anthology of Town & Country*; 1020 Woods Mill Rd; #310; St Louis, MO 63017; 636-200-5076 [birthdate: July 24]
(Father of Deb Carter).

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

JoJo & Derek and Natty Kersting as they await a baby this summer.

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 & those dealing with meds.

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.

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 16, 2023

John 20:19-31

Holy Language

Tuesday, April 18 is Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. On a recent Yom HaShoah, Rev. Sigrid Rother of Westerville Community United Church of Christ in Columbus, Ohio was invited by a rabbi at a local reform synagogue to speak at a Holocaust Remembrance Day service for the local Jewish community.

“I was probably the only Christian in the room. It was kind of an odd feeling,” pastor Rother remembers. But she took a breath and told her story. Rother was born and grew up in a Germany imbued with a common guilt over the atrocities of the Holocaust. Her sense of responsibility was personal as well as national. Her own father, just ten years old when Adolph Hitler came to power, had been part of the Hitler Youth and then later a Nazi pilot. Growing up in a small and impoverished Polish village, Rother believes her father’s Nazi involvement had provided an outlet for activities like camping and sports that were not offered elsewhere. “I say this,” Rother explains, “not justifying, just trying to understand. I don’t want to make him into a victim.” In the post-war years, her father worked as a miner and became a difficult alcoholic. Rother’s mother’s family was less enthusiastic about the Nazi party, but were coerced in joining the party, even though they did not agree with its policies.

All of this was in the background, but rarely mentioned in her childhood. Rother got a call to ministry while still in Germany but felt constrained by the limits of the state church there. She studied in South Africa when apartheid was being dismantled, and that experience along with her childhood gave her a strong sense of justice. “When Black Lives Matter happened, I could not but stand up, because it is so ingrained in me,” she says.

As she told this story to the group at the Remembrance Day service, Rother admits, “I was so nervous! Who do I think I am? Here are people who lost family members. Seeing survivors, with tattoos on their arms... there were tears in my eyes.” But at the end of the event, the only response was an outpouring of love and gratitude.

It took courage for Sigrid Rother to break generational silence and admit her family’s complicity in her nation’s violent past. The first steps were nerve-racking, but the path she walked led to greater understanding and healing. May her story inform us as we take the journey toward reconciliation and the creation of the Reign of God.