



**PARKWAY**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org

July 16, 2023

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## Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

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### Purpose Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ strives to be an inclusive community embracing: spiritual nourishment, open-minded inquiry, courageous action, and interfaith partnerships to fulfill God's calling to create a just world for all.

### Congregational Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ, with God's grace, seeks to be a congregation that includes all persons, regardless of race, ethnic, or socio—economic background while respecting differences of gender, marital status, age, sexual orientation, and mental and physical ability. We aspire to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our open and affirming congregation.

## PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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# Welcome *to* Parkway

**Thank you for joining us** this morning! If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat.

**Welcome Children** We invite children to full participation in worship.

**Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer**

**Scripture Reader:** Dawn Jones-Goldstein

**Flowers:** Barry Luedloff in celebration of his father's 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday. Happy Birthday to Don!

**Subscribe to our email lists:** Sign up at [www.parkwayucc.org](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

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**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/videos 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/PUCCmedia>

## 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](http://www.crisistextline.org)

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

## Anniversaries

7/22 CLIFFORD, Scott & Carol (23)

7/22 WADDELL, Brian & Sheila (23)

## Birthdays

7/16 WINTER, Jane

7/17 BROWN, Cynthia

7/17 WESSEL, Cindy

7/18 BIONDO, Joe

7/18 DEGROOTE, Joan

7/21 MCLACHLIN, Judy

7/21 WADDELL, Ty

# 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday *after* Pentecost

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

**Meditation** *Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy. Music is the electrical soil in which the spirit lives, thinks and invents. ~Beethoven*

**Welcome** Let us know you are here! Help us welcome FOOT - Friends of Old Time! FOOT is an open community welcoming all that want to learn and play old time music and song. They meet here at Parkway on the first and third Tuesday evenings, and at other locations during the month. Old-time music is a genre of North American folk music. It is played on acoustic instruments, generally centering on a combination of fiddle and plucked or strummed string instruments, most often the banjo, guitar, mandolin, mountain dulcimer, and upright bass. The genre is considered a precursor to modern country music. **Welcome, FOOT!**

**Passing the Peace** “May the peace of Christ be with you.”  
(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

**Prelude** *Possum Tail is Bare*  
This tune is from a children’s rhyme: “Raccoon tail has rings all around, possum’s tail is bare. Rabbit’s got no tail at all, just a little bit of hair.”

## Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

### Welcome Song

*Old Yellow Dog Goes Trottin’ Through the Meeting House*  
An old tune from when farmers brought their dog to Sunday meetings.

**Scripture** Matthew 13:1-8 (MSG - The Message)

At about that same time Jesus left the house and sat on the beach. In no time at all a crowd gathered along the shoreline, forcing him to get into a boat. Using the boat as a pulpit, he addressed his congregation, telling stories.

“What do you make of this? A farmer planted seed. As he scattered the seed, some of it fell on the road, and birds ate it. Some fell in the gravel; it sprouted quickly but didn’t put down roots, so when the sun came up it withered just as quickly. Some fell in the weeds; as it came up, it was strangled by the weeds. Some fell on good earth, and produced a harvest beyond his wildest dreams.”

### \*Call to Worship

One: Our God of abundance is calling us here – you and me and us.

**Many: We come in the middle of a season of great growth.**

One: We look forward to the coming harvest. There will be plenty. So we work diligently, deliberately, creatively, compassionately now.

**Many:** That the signs of growth we see and feel can spread and multiply.

**One:** We are committed to being faithful and fruitful.

**Many:** We are dedicated to love with all we are and all we have.

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

**\*Song** *Amazing Grace*

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.**

**‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved,  
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed!**

**Thro’ many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come,  
‘Tis grace hath bro’t me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me, those words my hope secure,  
This will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.**

**When we’ve been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise, than when we’d first begun.**

**\*Opening Prayer** *Christine Longhurst*

**O God, we gather together in Your presence with expectation,  
hungry for an encounter with You, eager to hear Your Word.  
Open our eyes and ears to the presence of Your Holy Spirit.  
May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us this morning  
fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives,  
and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds.  
We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and our  
friend. 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.

**Response** *Peace Like a River*

**I've got peace like a river...  
I've got joy like a fountain...  
I've got love like the ocean...**

## **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.**

## **Scripture** Genesis 25:19-34 (CEB - Common English Bible)

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son. Abraham became the father of Isaac. Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean and the sister of Laban the Aramean, from Paddan-aram. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, since she was unable to have children. The Lord was moved by his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. But the boys pushed against each other inside of her, and she said, "If this is what it's like, why did it happen to me?"

So she went to ask the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb; two different peoples will emerge from your body. One people will be stronger than the other; the older will serve the younger."

When she reached the end of her pregnancy, she discovered that she had twins. The first came out red all over, clothed with hair, and she named him Esau. Immediately afterward, his brother came out gripping Esau's heel, and she named him Jacob. Isaac was 60 years old when they were born.

When the young men grew up, Esau became an outdoorsman who knew how to hunt, and Jacob became a quiet man who stayed at home. Isaac loved Esau because he enjoyed eating game, but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was boiling stew, Esau came in from the field hungry and said to Jacob, "I'm starving! Let me devour some of this red stuff." That's why his name is Edom.

Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright today."

Esau said, "Since I'm going to die anyway, what good is my birthright to me?"

Jacob said, "Give me your word today." And he did. He sold his birthright to Jacob. So Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew. He ate, drank, got up, and left, showing just how little he thought of his birthright.

## **Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **Sermon**

## **Invitation to Prayer** *Tombigbee Waltz*

Named for the Tombigbee River in Alabama. The **Laura Ingalls Wilder Songbook** credits the melody to having been written in 1847.

## **Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People**

**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.]

## **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.

## **Interlude** *Shove that Pig's Foot Closer to the Fire*

This could have been a tune sung by enslaved people that over time became about a blacksmith tool called a pig's foot when working a forge.

## **\*Prayer of Dedication** Carol Penner

**Holy One, we have the means to give, we have the reason to give, and there are many waiting for us to give. Yet often, our hands hold back, and we hoard what we have for ourselves. God of grace, help us live and give in your kingdom of love, where there are no enemies, only sisters and brothers—and kindness is the air we breathe. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.**

## **\*Song of Parting** *Nail that Catfish to the Tree*

The phrase “More than one way to skin a cat” is about cleaning catfish. Here is another way!

## **\*Benediction**

## **\*God's Light Goes Forth**

## **\*Music for Going Forth** *Red Wing*

Copyright 1907 by Mills and Chattaway, now in the public domain.

The melody was written in response to a craze for First Nations (Indian) themed songs after the publication of the book “Hiawatha”.

# Announcements

Please submit your announcement at [www.parkwayucc.org/communications](http://www.parkwayucc.org/communications).  
Bulletin and eNews deadline: noon Monday.

## Let's Get Acquainted—A New Parkway UCC Church Directory Coming Soon

A Directory Team is preparing to update our church directory—this year, without family photos but with lots of updated information. See the update questionnaires on the round table in the Gathering Space. If your current information is correct, WRITE YOUR NAME, and please check the circle at the top of the form and place it in the basket on the round table. If there are changes in your information, please PRINT CLEARLY your information, ESPECIALLY THE EMAIL ADDRESSES. We thank you for responding.

More info: Carol Cobb | [ccjacob@aol.com](mailto:ccjacob@aol.com) | (314) 640-8166

## 7/23—Parkway Speaker Series: *The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with a Single Step* by Savannah Gagnon

Sunday, July 23 | 11:15am - 12:15pm | Heritage Rm & Zoom

**Zoom link:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=a](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1lyQT09#success)

EM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1lyQT09#success

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

Pythagoras, the Greek philosopher, advised us to “Leave the roads; take the trails.” Our speaker, Savannah Gagonon, took that counsel. She has hiked the Appalachian Trail, (2,200 miles) and the Pacific Crest Trail (3,028 miles). Those two trails, along with the Continental Divide Trail (3,028 miles), informally constitute the Triple Crown of Hiking in this country. Currently, she is preparing to tackle the third leg.

These trails traverse America’s remote wilds through deserts, deep forests, and over mountains, exposing the hikers to a variety of weather. It doesn’t take much imagination to envision that Savannah has many stories to recount her adventures.

## 7/27 Parkway Adventurers Outing: Missouri Botanical Garden

Thursday, July 27 | 9:00am carpool or 9:30 at Garden entrance | Lunch after Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63110

Join the Parkway Adventurers (PALS) as we enjoy *Chihuly in the Garden* at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Stroll through the Garden, or sit and enjoy the scenery. At the Garden, we can grab lunch at the Sassafras Cafe or enjoy a more leisurely meal at the Sassafras Restaurant. Please RSVP to Jackie Eiffert, [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com) or 661-378-6781.

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/>



## **Habitat For Humanity Parkway UCC Workday Opening**

Saturday, July 29 | 7:45am-3:30pm | 711 Lookaway Ct 63137

Bring your hands and heart and help build affordable housing for someone who needs it. These houses are purchased by the residents. This is not a giveaway. Participate in the continuation Parkway UCC / Habitat for Humanity legacy. Construction skills nice but not necessary. Habitat supplies all tools. Satisfaction a guaranty. One slot has opened up for Saturday July 29.

Contact Tom McKenzie : mckenzie1947@att.net | 314-567-0429



## **JHLTB—Jesus Has Left the Building July 30**

Sign up to help in the Gathering Space go to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4daeea28a46-jesus/>

We will be doing various activities to serve the community.

## **Caring for the Welfare of Children: *Support for Isaiah 58 School Supplies Ministries***

The following items are requested:

1. Underwear, including socks, undershirts, all sizes, adults too, but especially for children, considering that older high school students need larger sizes;
2. 200 composition books, college-ruled (narrow lines), one-subject, spiral-bound. Watch for sales when shopping and take advantage of late July and August Back-to-School sales.
3. Hosts to sponsor activity tables on the Isaiah 58 Back-to-School Fair on Saturday, 22 July, 8:00 to 1:00 PM. Let me know if anyone is interested in this portion of the school fair day.

Underwear, all sizes, and composition books can be collected through Aug 31.

Evelyn Buretta: burettaevelyn@gmail.com | (636) 220-1280

## **UCC Habitat for Humanity Auction ~ Fall Fundraiser**

Our UCC Build is gearing up for an online auction this fall. We are looking for a volunteer from PUCC to seek items and publicize the auction in our congregation and beyond. We hope that we'll discover great items for others to buy: Cardinals tickets, Dinner at a favorite place, Service from a company, A pie a month. The items are only limited by our imagination. Already, someone has donated a truck load of firewood, an HVAC check, a gift certificate to a restaurant. More info? Contact Tom McKenzie: mckenzie1947@att.net or Keith Karau keith.karau@gmail.com

*Habitat helps build strength and stability ~ at Habitat for Humanity, we build. We build because we believe that everyone, everywhere should have a healthy, affordable place to call home. When a family helps build or improve a place they can call home, they are also building a better community as they build a better life for themselves.*

## **Tuesday Evening Dialogue (TED) is now on Summer Break.**

Check your bulletin in August for our return date. Meanwhile find a fun and/or inspirational book of your choice to enjoy on these hot and lazy days!

# Prayer List

as of Wednesday, July 12, 2023

## Celebrations

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

**Seasonal beauty.**

**The search for Christian Education and Youth Director** - our team has put forth a great candidate to the Church Council for approval!

## Concerns

**Family & friends of Dick Witte** as they grieve & give thanks for him.

**Skip Larson** - healing post rafting snafu -pins, rods in back; broken ribs

**Pleis/Harms/Eiffert/Schmelig** - grief/gratitude for Uncle Alan.

**Peter LaSalle & Sally Dodge** - his palliative care; their move in STL.

**Donna** - recent cancer diagnosis (sister of Dottie Dwyer).

**Virant family** - canoeing accident resulting in a death (Svenson).

**The ongoing power struggles and violence in Sudan, elsewhere**

**The continuing war in Ukraine.**

## Continuing

**Kevin and Rosanna Hogarty** - as he recuperates from a heart attack.

**Val & Doug Detjen** - as she continues to strengthen *at home*.

**Cassie Rosenberger's sister Christa** - healing after recent surgery.

**Avery** (20 months old) and parents Kyle & Laura - as she has been diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy (Kari/Keith Borgmann's granddaughter).

**Cassie Rosenberger's mother Martha** - ongoing cancer treatments.

**Joseph Miller** - long road to healing (son of Deb Carter).

**Tito, Sarah & Family** - his outpt rehab after stroke (Mason nephew).

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

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

**Bill Darland** - ongoing health issues.

**Gail, Bill and Christopher Haack** - chronic health challenges.

**Coree Mix** - settling into new home by DePaul Hospital... 11777 Minot Drive, Bridgeton 63044; 314-412-0150. They'd love a call and/or visit!

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

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

**Matt Albers** - finished chemo and radiation; surgery next (Connors).

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

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

**Sharon** - doing well after navigating a variety of challenges (Rogers).

**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]

## 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.

# 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, July 16, 2023

## **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

### *Wheat and Weeds Together*

When St. John's United Church of Christ, in the southern Illinois town of Belvidere, decided to plant a community garden that would be open to all, they did not go small. In a video on the church's website, the large garden occupies a whole swath of the church's side yard. The plot also has some raised boxes, for folks who don't feel like kneeling when they harvest, and other pots for plants that are important to the garden, but not good for spreading. A share table holds free produce from the church garden, as well as other local gardens throughout the community. And anyone who would like to is invited to come at any time and gather the food that's ready for harvest, so that all might enjoy fresh produce during the harvest season.

Church pastor Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn explains in a video filmed in 2021 and available on the church's Facebook page, "This year, we're working to do a number of partner plantings, so we have the three sisters system with the corn stalk, and the beans growing up it and the gourds covering the root...Another way we're doing partner planting is with our blueberry bushes...in between each blueberry bush we have some herbs growing. Here is some thyme growing between these bushes and down here we have some basil that'll be growing up between the berries. We're trying to get as much food out of our garden as possible and one of the ways we do that is through our partner planting. Thyme especially likes the soil that blueberries like, so we're hoping they pair well together and appreciate each other's company."

By their intentional growing methods, the church is not just feeding the community. It's modeling a system of interdependence and mutual cooperation that helps not just thyme and blueberries but people to flourish.

You can see the whole video tour of the St. John's UCC community garden here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=235969421622372> or at <https://stjohns401.org/>