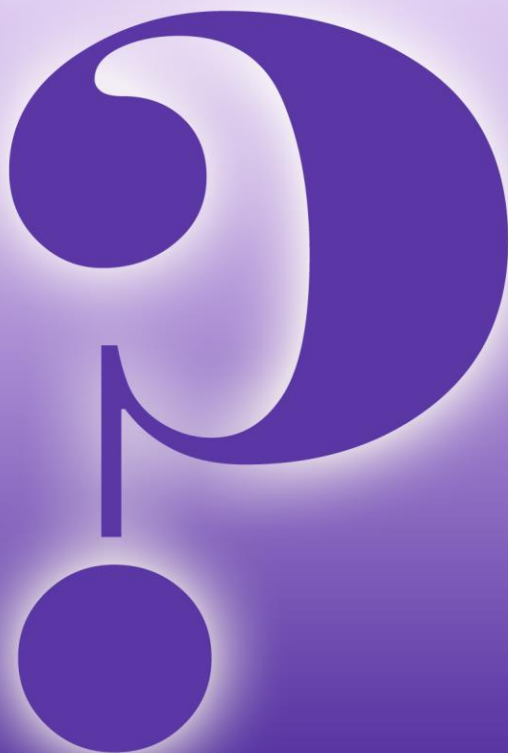


The
Punctuation
of **JESUS**
Jesus Came to Serve





www.parkwayucc.org

February 25, 2024

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
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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

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

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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 or sending an email.

Welcome Children We invite children to full participation in worship. We also have activity bags for young children to use while they are here.

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

Scripture Reader Kris McKenzie

Flowers given by Judy McLachlin in memory of her husband Bob. Please consider signing up to donate flowers on the large bulletin board in the Gathering Space!

Please consider signing up to read scripture in 2024:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BoD4CA4AC23AB9-scripture1>

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

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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

The numbers below are called Warmlines (not Hotlines).

They are peer run by people with lived experience.

Not all of them are 24/7/365

Teen Warm Line: 1 800-248-8336

Black Warm Line: 1-800-604-5841 (They are divested from the police)

Trans Warm Line: 1-877-565-8860

Project Return Warm Line: 1-800-448-9777 (run away)

Learn more about warm lines: <https://warmline.org/warmdir.html>

Birthdays

02/25 Laura Schowalter

03/01 Agneta Chostner

02/25 Wyatt Tallyn

03/01 Bill Haack

02/27 Cindy Nouri

03/02 Dan Lowenthal

02/27 Paul Roesler

02/28 Ralph Hoffman

02/28 Alek Waddell

2nd Sunday in Lent – Question Mark

Sunday, February 25th, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude *Prelude in C Major* – by M. Brosig, © 1948 (Renewed 198) J. Fischer & Bro.

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation If you want to serve others the way Jesus serves you, be willing to be interrupted. ~unknown

Passing the Peace of Christ

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Introit *Kyrie*

[Please follow the Cantor's directions]

*Kyrie Eleison...***Kyrie Eleison** (Lord, have mercy)

*Christe Eleison...***Christe Eleison** (Christ, have mercy)

*Kyrie Eleison...***Kyrie Eleison** (Lord, have mercy)

Scripture Mark 10:46-52 | NRSV - New Revised Standard Version

Jesus and the disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

*Call to Worship

One:	We come to this season of Lent to watch Jesus and soak in his gifts.
Many:	We see his compassion and we learn to become kinder.
One:	We see his patience and practice our own versions of this expression of trust.
Many:	We see his reliance on God and we learn to lean into God's grace.
One:	We see his miracles and learn to partner with the Spirit to help make incredible things come to pass.

Many:	We see his humor and we learn to be less serious.
One:	We see his listening skills at work as he asks questions and we learn to lend our open ears.
Many:	We see his intentionality and learn to be more focused on the opportunities and responsibilities that are before us.
One:	We see Jesus and strive to be more like him.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** *Just A Closer Walk with Thee*



1. I am weak, but thou art strong;
2. Through this world of toil and snares,
3. When my fee - ble life is o'er,



Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be sat - is - fied as
 if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my bur - den
 time for me will be no more; guide me gent - ly, safe - ly



long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.

Refrain



Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea,



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Lenten Candles

We lit seven candles as we embarked on this Lenten journey. We want the light of the Holy to illumine our path as we seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We commit to being more infused by the Spirit as we travel. Even as we know this is good and important work, we recognize that it isn't easy—and we will come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.

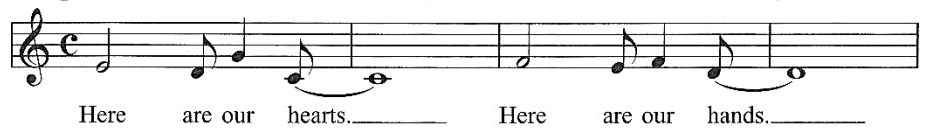
We extinguish one candle each time we gather for worship this season, acknowledging that this can be tough and exhausting work. As we approach the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning...the light that never goes out.

Prayer at the Candles

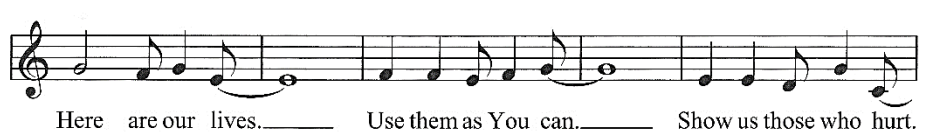
The Punctuation of Jesus: *How and What He Communicates*

Holy One, send your spirit that we might find more clarity around what it is that Jesus is trying to share with us. He uses different forms of communication in an effort to reach each and every one of us - regardless of our learning styles, life experiences and ability to focus. He is eager and effective in his attempts. Help us to open our heart, mind, spirit and all of our senses - that we might be more available to receive, understand and pass along what he wants and needs us to know now. Amen.

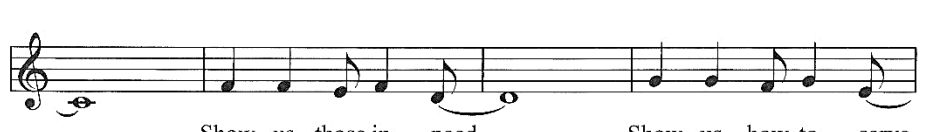
Response *Here Are Our Hearts* by Susan Drake and Julie Jennings




Here are our hearts. Here are our hands.



Here are our lives. Use them as You can. Show us those who hurt.



Show us those in need. Show us how to serve.



Teach us how to see.

Children's Time For children under the age of 3, parents are invited to take them to Room 01 (upper level) where one of our teachers will meet them at the door. Children from age 3 to 5th grade can follow one of our teachers down to Room 12 (lower level), and youth from 6th to 12th grade can follow a teacher to Room 15 (also lower level). For children in Room 01, parents please pick them up after worship. Children and youth from age 3 thru high school can be met in the Gather Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship, as the teachers will bring them back upstairs after class.

Blessing the Children *Jesus Loves the Little Children*

Jesus loves the little children,

All the children of the world.

Every child in every land,

Jesus holds them by the hand.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Scripture Mark 10:46-52 | MSG - The Message

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging.

When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.”

Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

“What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.”

“Go,” said Jesus, “Your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Day by Day*

Day by day, day by day,
O, dear Lord, three things I pray:
to see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,
fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.
day by day, by day, by day, by day.

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.]

Mission Moment ^{2nd} Mile Lent/Easter

Rev. Dr. Clint McCann

Heifer International | Lydia's House | Unleashing Potential | **Eden Seminary**

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.

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offertory Anthem *Forgive Us* – by Allen Pote, from A Season to Celebrate

Narrated by Atticus Reed

I was hungry . . . When did we see you hungry?
I was thirsty . . . When did we see you thirsty?
I was a stranger . . . When did we see you a stranger?
I was naked . . . When did we see you naked?
I was sick . . . When did we see you sick?
I was in prison . . . when did we see you in prison?
As you did it not for the least of these, you did it not for me!

O Lord, have mercy on us.

O Christ, have mercy on us.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Forgive us our sins, forgive us our sins,

Forgive us, forgive us our sins.

*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

Holy One, we hear your call to serve. We let love lead us. We open our ears, heart and hands to others - even the stranger. Guide us into places where we can put our faith into action. Amen.

*Song of Parting *We Are Called*



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



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



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

Refrain

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

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

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

walk hum-bly with God! _____

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Postlude in C* – by J. G. Albrechtsberg (1730-1809), arr. by Carlo Rossini

LAST WEEK

Jesus tells a rich man to sell his possessions and give them to the poor (Mark 10:17-31).

THIS WEEK

Jesus points out that the kingdom of God is one in which those on the margins are lifted up and those in power are brought down (Mark 10:32-52).

THE POINT

Jesus came to serve, and calls us to do the same.

HOW CAN WE UNDERSTAND INSPIRATION?

Christians have always believed that the Bible is the inspired Word of God. What that actually means has varied throughout the centuries. For much of history, biblical scholars read the Bible allegorically. They believed that the true meaning of a Bible passage could only be interpreted by those who were inspired by God. Today some Christians believe that the Bible is inerrant (God gave the biblical writers the words to use and so the Bible is without any errors). Others believe that while the biblical text can have flaws from the human writers, the meaning and message they contain are from God.

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus is on the road to Jerusalem. James and John approach Jesus and ask to be seated next to him in his glory. Jesus reminds them that he is on his way to the cross, and as followers of him, their call is one of servanthood, not of glory and power. They still struggle to truly understand who Jesus is, and how his presence will change the world. This lack of vision is contrasted immediately with the story of Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus, who is blind, calls out desperately to Jesus. Bartimaeus asks for sight, and Jesus heals him—his faith makes him well.

PRACTICE: SERVICE

Pray for God's guidance to see possible acts of service that you can do from behind the scenes without any recognition. Complete this act and do not tell anyone you did it.

NEXT WEEK

Jesus arrives in Jerusalem and teaches in the temple. The religious leaders confront him with questions meant to trap him (Mark 12:1-12 [13-17]).

GOING DEEPER

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? Consider the following basic pattern as a way of forming family devotions:

- ❖ Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time." Pray a simple prayer together.
- ❖ Take a moment to check in with each other; what are each person's "highs" and "lows" today?
- ❖ Read aloud from the Daily Bible Readings from below. Discuss the questions following each.
- ❖ End with a blessing, by simply tracing a cross on each other's forehead. The Lord's Prayer is a good way to end your devotion time. If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotions.

Note: This is only a suggested pattern. It will vary with your household's context and patterns. What works best for you? First thing in the morning? Over breakfast? Bedtime? Be creative and flexible with how you practice and keep your devotions!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY: Mark 10:35-45

Jesus came to serve. What can you do to become a servant-leader?

MONDAY: Mark 10:46-52

Jesus reached out to a man at the roadside. What do you want Jesus to do for you?

TUESDAY: Mark 10:23-27

A fig tree looked good but did not bear fruit. What fruit do you bear for Jesus?

WEDNESDAY: Mark 11:20-25

The power of prayer is connected to belief. What doubts do you hold in your heart?

THURSDAY: Mark 11:27-33

Jesus is asked a question about authority. Who are your authority figures? By whose authority did Jesus do things?

FRIDAY: Mark 12:1-12

Jesus tells the Parable of the Wicked Tenants. What does it mean that Jesus is the chief cornerstone?

SATURDAY: Psalm 118:21-26

We build our lives on the Chief Cornerstone. Take some time to rejoice in this day that the Lord has made.

Announcements

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

Speak Truth to Power ADVOCACY MADE EASY! Join with others today to express your thoughts about HB 1708 which would allow those with “carry” permits to bring guns into our church. Following worship today, there will be sample letters for you to address to your state legislator as well as envelopes and stamps. And Bianca can look up your legislator and address if you need help. Complete a letter in the Gathering Space or take one home. The text will also be available on-line. Because legislators don’t often hear from their constituents, your voice can make a difference. Join us to alert your representative to your view on this pending legislation... then come back into the Sanctuary for --

Symbols In the Sanctuary TODAY

Sunday, February 25 | 11:15am following worship in the sanctuary
Having just celebrated the 25th Anniversary of our Sanctuary, the Church Council is pleased and grateful to have Dr Clint McCann, Evangelical Professor of Biblical Interpretation from Eden Seminary, with us next Sunday. He will offer the Mission Moment about Eden, one of our 2nd Mile Lent recipients, during worship and engage us in Biblical and Theological teaching and conversation about symbols in the sanctuary after worship. We believe our sanctuary is sacred space that is hospitable and inclusive. Over the years we have added the organ; stained glass windows; banners; US and Christian flags; prayer corner, perpetual candle and angel painting; a rocking chair; the AV Booth and monitors. Join us as we think more about our sanctuary.

Discover Turkish Cuisine TODAY

Sunday, February 25 | 1:30-3pm | 664 Lemay Ferry Rd, St. Louis, MO 63125
The Turkish American Society of Missouri (TASOM) is thrilled to inform you that they’re continuing their monthly "Discover Turkish Cuisine" cooking classes. Please join them to cook and enjoy more delicious recipes.

The venue will be at the Turkish American Society of Missouri in the cooking classroom on the 2nd floor. For more information contact TASOM (314) 461-3508; info@tasom.org

MONTH OF GRACE + PRAYER ~ A Retreat In Everyday Life

Make 2024 the year when your relationship with God blossoms by participating in the Month of Grace + Prayer retreat in everyday life. Pray on your own each day and meet privately with a spiritual companion for one hour, once per week for four consecutive weeks. This retreat is personalized to what you are hoping for, whether that is to make more time for prayer, to learn new ways to pray, to pray about a certain issue in your life, deepen your personal relationship with Jesus, or to receive whatever God is offering to you at this time. During the weekly sessions, your spiritual companion will listen with love and affirmation, offer questions that will lead you deeper into your

prayer experiences and offer prayer suggestions for the coming week. Offered in person and completely virtually, all adults are welcome regardless of denomination or affiliation. Committed couples also have the option to participate as a couple.

The retreat will begin with a group gathering of all participants today at 2:00-3:30pm in-person and 6:30-8:00pm virtually. In-person meetings with spiritual companions take place at church on Monday mornings, afternoons or evenings, and virtual meetings are scheduled on any day and time mutually convenient with the companion and participant. All participants will gather again in celebration on Sunday, March 24 from 1:00-2:30pm in-person and 6:30-8:00pm virtually. For even more information or to register, visit: www.momentsofgraceandprayer.org or contact Clarence Heller clarenceheller@gmail.com; 314.258.9066. There is no registration fee, but retreatants are invited to share the costs of the retreat as they are able.

Testimonial

I participated in this retreat a few years ago. My prayer partner was Sister Pat. She was spiritual and encouraging. I kept a journal which I still return to from time to time. I highly recommend this opportunity. ~PUCCer

Family Iftar Dinners

As the Holy Month of Ramadan approaches, Turkish American Society of Missouri (TASOM) would like to invite you to attend a Home-Based Family Iftar Dinner with a local Muslim host family.

Fasting is practiced in many religious traditions and spiritual practices. We believe common traditions like shared meals are important opportunities for people from different faith communities to become closer to each other. Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims that **starts on March 11th** this year. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from the break of dawn to sunset. This month represents a time of fasting, charity, prayer, and unity. Individuals from different religious and cultural communities come together to break fast and engage in friendly dialogue, resulting in a more comprehensive understanding and respect for other religious traditions.

Please fill out this form [here today](#). Information about the host family, their address, phone number, and professional affiliation will be shared with you as soon as we finalize the family matching process. These dinners are free and welcome to anyone who would like to join, regardless of their faith. You do not need to fast to attend these meals.

This will be a wonderful experience with delightful food and companions to share a meal with.

Tuesday Evening Dialogue – February 27

2nd & 4th Tuesday | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00pm discussion | Heritage Rm Please join us in the Heritage Room as we finish up our discussion of *The Book of Charlie*. We will also be choosing our next book to read. This is the true story of the author's neighbor, 109-year old Charlie. Von Drehle came to understand that Charlie's resilience and willingness to grow made this remarkable man a master in the art of thriving through times of dramatic change. *The Book of Charlie* is a gospel of grit—the inspiring story of one

man's journey through a century of upheaval. The history that unfolds through Charlie's story reminds you that the United States has always been a divided nation, a questing nation, an inventive nation—a nation of Charlies in the rollercoaster pursuit of a good and meaningful life.

For more info, contact Helen Race raceh@att.net | (314) 401-4382

Black History and the Disability Rights Movement

Thursday, Feb. 29 | 5:30-8 pm | Missouri History Museum | Lee Auditorium

Join the Missouri History Museum on Thursday, February 29, for a panel discussion in recognition of the experiences of Black individuals with disabilities who have confronted both racism and ableism, as well as the contributions that Black people with disabilities have made to the disability rights movement. Our own PUCCer, Dr. Jo Grove, will be a panelist, so go out and support her! For more information:

click [here](#), email access@mohistory.org or call 314-454-3161.

Gateway Open and Affirming Convocation

Saturday, March 2nd; 8:30am-3:00pm here at Parkway UCC

Join area churches at Parkway UCC for an inspirational day of learning and providing support for the LGBTQIA Community. Participants can attend three workshops during the day following a worship service and keynote address.

We encourage Parkway members to live up to their commitment from years ago when Parkway voted to become ONA and learn more about the movement and how we can be partners with the LGBTQAI community. The workshops are led by experienced individuals who are well-prepared. The worship service and keynote address are inspirational. This year, Rev. Dr. Katrina Roseboro-Marsh, UCC ONA Coalition's Executive Director, will give the Keynote address. We are encouraging Parkway members to attend, but also volunteer to assist in various roles. Thanks for letting us know if you can volunteer and where you would be willing to serve. For more info, contact Carol

Cobb ccjobb@aol.com or Greg Schmelig greg_schmelig@hotmail.com. Let's learn and love the LGBTQAI+ Community!

Go to Jerusalem: A Lenten Devotional

Sundays during Lent, 9-9:30 am | Heritage Room

This Lent, imagine placing your hand in the hand of Jesus and journeying with him to Jerusalem.

In these daily devotions for the 40 days of Lent and Holy Week, pastor and scholar Mary Alice Mulligan leads us on a self-reflective journey to discover what it really means to follow Jesus.

These concise entries include scripture, reflections, journaling prompts, suggested spiritual practices, and a prayer. Entries are undated, making this a perennial resource.

Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Heritage Room, we'll come together to reflect on how our journeys are going, the challenges we've faced, and kernels of truth gleaned as we grow closer to God, that we may support each other in covenantal fellowship together.

For more information, or if you would like a devotional mailed to you, please contact Gabriel Requadt gabriel@parkwayucc.org (314) 872-9330.

AWOL: Adventurous Women Out Late

Join us as we make new connections and strengthen existing ones.

Sunday, March 3 at 1pm- ART IN BLOOM @ The St. Louis Art Museum.

This event requires RSVP also

Saturday, April 13 at 1pm- Spend a couple of hours with us at Laumière Sculpture Park

Friday, May 10 at 6pm- Dinner on the patio - details TBA.

Contact Carmen Bumgarner: cfbum@charter.net | (314) 330-0813

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – March 5

Horse by Geraldine Brooks

1st & 3rd Tuesday | 1:45pm fellowship | 2:00-3:00pm discussion

[Zoom Link](#) (312) 626-6799; Meeting ID: 836 7061 7428; Passcode: 480007

Please join us with Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue as we read and discuss *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. Join us for fellowship at 1:45, and book discussion from 2 - 3. We'll discuss the book in thirds, on March 5th, 19th, and April 2nd.

From Amazon -"A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history. From these strands, Pulitzer Prize winning author Geraldine Brooks braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice." The book begins before the Civil War with the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington and his enslaved groom, and ends in our current time period. Most of the details regarding Lexington's racing career are true. *Horse* is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism. TAD would love to have you. For more info, contact Jackie Eiffert jeiffert2@gmail.com.

Adventurous Men Out Early

Thursday, March 7 | 9:15am | Heritage Room

The agenda: coffee and conversation. All are welcome. Questions? Talk to Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Annual St. Patrick's Dinner to Benefit Habitat for Humanity

March 09, 4:00-7:00pm | Samuel UCC 320 N. Forsyth Blvd., Clayton MO

Suggested \$20 donation, children \$6. EVERY CENT you give goes to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis. All meat and other food are either a gift from the Kern Meat Company or others. Corned beef and cabbage, Irish mashed potatoes, soda bread and a homemade dessert buffet like no other. For more info, please contact Tom McKenzie at mckenzie1947@att.net

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am

"The Estate Sale; a Going-out-of-Business Event for a Person's Life," by Perrin Stifel.

Mar. 10 | 11:15 am | Heritage Room

The stuff you surround yourself with tells a story. It is a physical autobiography you write by living. Which is why people love estate sales. The estate sale, unlike its close relative the yard sale, is not a selective culling of possessions. It's a perusing of the stuff integral to a stranger's life.

Fingering the wares allows you to commune with the departed. If you're paying attention, you can put together a story about who they were. If not, well then we have Parkway Church member Perrin Stifel, who can put the

story together for you, since he is not only a veteran estate sales sage; he is also an award winning storyteller. There will be no remote access. For more information contact Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com.

Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown

Sunday, March 17 | 11am-1pm | Fellowship Hall

LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE!!!!

It's time for our annual Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown!

The event will be held on Sunday, March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, following the worship service.

So, wear your green, bring your best chili and/or brownies, and with a wee bit o' luck, you will be the 2024 champion and receive the coveted trophy (ribbon for the brownies) and braggin' rights for the next year!

This is a fundraiser for the youth to raise money for their annual mission projects; so come out, support our youth, and enjoy some fun, fellowship and good-natured competition!

Thanks for your support! We'll have sign-up sheets out soon! Contact Amy Yakel for more info: da_yakel@att.net 314-956-0217

Spring Friendship Dinners

Spring is Right around the corner, and so are Friendship Dinners. Sign up in The Gathering Space to be a host or guest. Hosts can also sign up to be a guest at another dinner.

We ask the host volunteers to indicate how many guests they will invite. The Friendship Dinner team will organize the dinners at the end of February, considering where people live.

Then, the host will call the guests on the date suggested. The host provides the main dishes, and guests bring a side dish or dessert. The host can also decide to host a Dutch dinner at a local restaurant. Questions? Contact Cindy Wessel cindywessel@yahoo.com.

Trans/Queer Youth Clothing Swap

Happening March 2024

Complete Harmony and partners are proud to announce the first annual Trans/Queer Youth Clothing and Community Swap. From family and financial barriers to mental health diagnoses, there are many reasons why our Trans/Queer youth are feeling disconnected and unseen. In response, we're creating a community space for these amazing youth to swap clothes and connect in the community. When Trans/Queer-identifying youth gather they have the power to validate, represent, connect, and celebrate who they each authentically are, as well as their community. Registration is required, the event and items are free for youth. Out of safety for everyone, **you must register here** to receive the event date, time, and location.

Looking for More Singers for PUCC Sanctuary Choir

If you've always imagined singing in the choir—or the thought is just occurring to you for the first time right now, why not give it a try?

We're needing extra singers for Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Please reach out to barry@parkwayucc.org 636-485-5378 to let him know!

We have an intergenerational choir called *First Sunday Choir* that gathers at 9am on the first Sunday of each month to learn a simple song or two to sing that morning in worship.

The *Sanctuary Choir* sings on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from September – May and practices on Thursday evenings.

Our *Children's Choir* sings on the third Sunday of each month.

OUR REDUCE PLASTIC CAMPAIGN CONTINUED

Bottled water contains more than just water. It also contains a massive number of microscopic pieces of plastic.

That's according to recent research, which finds that the average liter of bottled water holds nearly a quarter million tiny pieces of plastic, also known as microplastics. These microplastics are nearly invisible, but they pose a real risk to human health.

A drink of water shouldn't come with a side of microplastics. That's why we're campaigning for a plastic-free future where we reduce plastic production, replace single-use items with alternatives, and recycle the rest.

Microplastics have been found in people's lungs, intestines, and bloodstream. These miniscule pieces of plastic can become lodged in the heart as well as other organs.

The extent to which microplastics can cause harm inside the human body is still being researched. However, we know that microplastics are carriers for the chemicals used in plastic production. These chemicals have been found to increase the risk of cancer and impact the nervous and reproductive systems.³ There's no reason that plastic should be allowed to threaten human health and the environment, especially when alternatives to single-use products exist. To prevent further risk, we're calling on state governments across the country to ban the worst of single use plastics. We're also successfully urging corporations to curb their plastic footprints.

This article was taken from an email from ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION. I've taken out the parts asking for donations to this cause. I will donate and would be glad to pass the campaign information details on to anyone.

Keep these facts in mind when purchasing bottled water and using them at home and in the community. Bring/use/and reuse your own NON PLASTIC REUSABLE CONTAINER when possible and share these statistics with others please.

Polly Rutherford for
Sustainability Seekers

Prayer List

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Celebrations

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

Concerns

Val and Doug Detjen - doing well after recent surgery.

Yakel Family as they grieve and give thanks for sister-in-law Chris.

Kevin and Rosanna Hogarty - his quadruple bypass surgery 02/21.

Dennis Giever - healing momentum in rehab after a fall (Connors).

Tom Manor - prostate cancer; widowed 2023; parenting (McKenzie).

Family/friends of Rex Enoch, former Heifer leader - as they grieve and give thanks for him (Barnes).

Family/friends of Matt Albers - grieving/giving thanks (Connors).

Jackie - receiving hospice care at home (sister of Nick McMillon).

Jaime LaSalle's mother, Sandy - liver cancer; moving to hospice.

Mike - cancer surgery complications (Lauren Yakel's soon father in-law).

Sharon Thiemann - undergoing cancer treatment (Svenson).

The continuing war in Ukraine.

War in the Mideast - Israel and Hamas....Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Yemen

US Southern Border Crisis and our immigration policies/practices.

Continuing

Bill Hilgeman - continued healing after serious injuries.

Rebecca Ray - that her book on suicide prevention will be published.

Kari Borgmann - her mom becoming more feeble, lack of awareness.

Mike Kolman - healing and discerning his future care (Svenson).

Cassie Rosenberger's mother Martha - ongoing cancer treatments.

Gram Ruth Hughes - Lymphoma; receiving hospice care (Schneider).

Sege Ruiz - paralyzed from car accident in September.

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

Kate - medical tests for lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, more (Borgmann).

Pam - cancer diagnosis while receiving care for injuries from a fall.

Nelson Spencer - continued treatment for multiple issues (Svenson).

Trudy - living with cancer; healing after a fall (Scharf).

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

Cherie & Mike Stolze and family - her chronic health challenges.

Bill & Nancy Darland - his ongoing health issues.

Gail, Bill and Christopher Haack - chronic health challenges.

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

Home-Centered/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Marv Herpel - *Brookdale West County*; 785 Henry Ave, #217;

Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-227-5838 [birthdate: March 3]

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]

Judy Waddell - *McKnight Place*; 3 McKnight Pl, #229; StL MO 63124; 314-312-1129 [birthdate: August 13]

Pinky Wilcoxon - *Delmar Gardens Creve Coeur*; 850 Country Manor Ln; #136; Creve Coeur, MO 63141; 314-434-5900 [birthdate: April 7]

Other

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.

PUCF 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.