PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS

LIMITLESS LOVE
COURAGEOUS ACTION
SPIRITED INQUIRY

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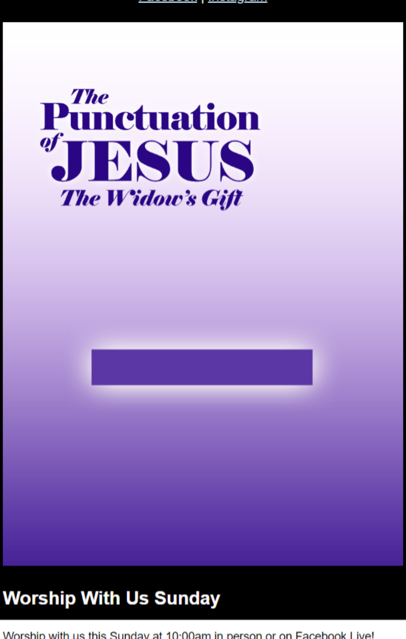


Worship With Us Sunday

Worship with us this Sunday at 10:00am in person or on Facebook Live! (Remember to push your clocks ahead one hour at 2am so you're not late for church!)

It's the fourth Sunday of Lent. Our theme is **The Punctuation of Jesus:** *How and What He Communicates*. Today we are thinking about the hyphen which joins and glues things together.

Our gospel lesson is Mark 12:38-44 where Jesus observes some of the differences between religion scholars and poor widow. As he so often does, he turns things upside down. This time by telling us that the widow if the one for us to model ourselves after, not the religious men. Preach, Jesus!!

Our music includes: *In Unity We Lift Our Song; Here Are Our Hearts; This Little Light of Mine; Make Me A Channel of Your Peace; We're A Fellowship of Believers; Let All Things Now Living;* and *In the Bulb There is A Flower.*

Our 2nd Mile Lent offering will be split evenly among our seasonal partners: *Heifer International; Lydia's House; Unleashing Potential* and *Eden Seminary*.
Our Mission Moment this weekend will focus on Unleashing Potential, a UCC agency here that has been serving the children, teens and families of St Louis since 1913... https://upstl.org/

Come at 9am ---- in the Heritage Room, we'll come together to reflect on how our Lenten journeys are going from our readings of Go To Jerusalem, 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. We will be at the **26th Day of Lent** on March 10.

The bulletin is linked **here**!

We do have a Speaker Series with our own Perrin Stifel at 11:15am. Please see invitation below.

Christian Education and Youth News

Children Offering Envelopes
In an effort to be intentional about the spiritual cultivation of God's young, PUCC provides offering envelopes on Sunday mornings at the table where the bulletins are for families to take for their children to put a tiny offering in; a dollar or even just a few coins. This money will go towards our fund for Heifer International that will be used to help give an animal to families in need! The kids are able to then give their envelope to an usher on their way down to Sunday School, or Gabriel can collect it during their Opening Session he does with them all as well.

Once we've collected enough money for an animal, we'll see if the kids would like to have it go towards that animal or wait to donate a bigger one. And for any animal we donate to from the kids' offerings, PUCC will match that, living into what I will call our Noah's Ark. Two by two we help the world!

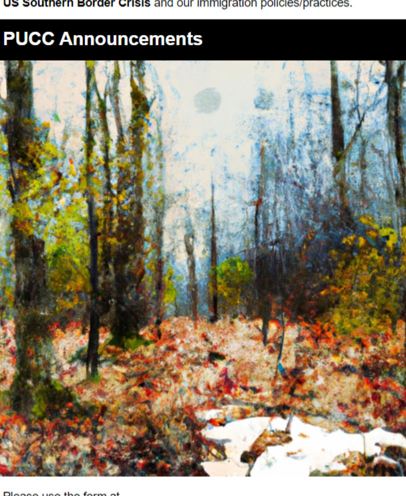
For any questions about this, contact me, Gabriel gabriel@parkwayucc.org.

Join the Children's Ministry Team
We are looking for two additional volunteers to join the team and help teach Children's Ministry in 2024. It's an excellent way to serve in this church, and we have a vibrant Children's Ministry program. So, if you have a joy teaching children from PreK to 5th Grade, we'd love to have ya! It's pretty low commitment, so not too demanding, so if you feel you'd have a couple weeks out of the month free, or even just one week a month, then this could be the right fit for you.
If interested, please reach out to Gabriel Requadt, our Director of Christian Education, for more information: gabriel@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330 x101

Prayer List Updates as of March 08

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far.
Carol Stelmach - healing from hip replacement surgery (Litzinger).
Lana Biondo and family as her mother is discharged from the hospital to hospice care.
Ralf and Cindy Wessel - in Germany to grieve/give thanks for his brother Juergen.
Kevin and Rosanna Hogarty - healing from recent triple bypass surgery; home address 4434 Paragon Ct, Gig Harbor WA 98335.
Keith Mohl - stage 4 lung cancer (Mike's brother).
Family/friends of the four children and mother who died tragically in Ferguson last week (Alul - Burns).
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.

PUCC Announcements



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

For the privacy of our members, PUCC will only include emails for events. For more information about events contact or questions in general about the eNews announcements, contact gabriel@parkwayucc.org or call 314-872-9330 ext. 101, and we will forward your inquiry to the event coordinator.

Easter Prayer Vigil ~ March 29-31
Our Annual Easter Prayer Vigil begins Good Friday Night and continues through our Easter Sunrise Service. Please sign up **here** to be in prayer for at least one of the 36 hours at your home - not at church. If you would like some suggestions about what to do during your hour, refer to this booklet **here!**

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.

Parkway UCC Speaker Series
Occasional opportunities after worship from 11:15am-12pm
"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.

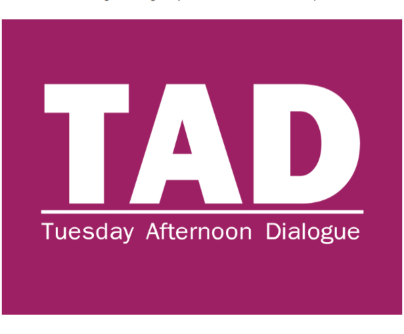
For more information contact Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com.

Tuesday Evening Dialogue – March 12
2nd & 4th Tuesday | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00pm discussion | Heritage Rm

TED's current book selection is **The Book of Longings** by Sue Monk Kidd. This is a fictional novel about a young woman who becomes the wife of Jesus. Grounded in meticulous historical research and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity, The Book of Longings is an inspiring account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place, and culture devised to silence her. We meet every second and fourth Tuesday at 6pm for potluck dinner and book discussion. For more info, contact Helen Race raceh@att.net

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

A Night at the Opera
Sunday, March 17 | 2:30pm | Parkway UCC
Join the Town & Country Symphony Orchestra and guest conductor Paul Davis in the more intimate setting of Parkway UCC for a time of operatic and orchestral favorites. Baritone Jacob Lassetter and soprano Karen Kanakis will perform a selection of arias and duets. In addition, the orchestra will present Haydn's "London" symphony and selections from Bruch's violin concerto. Please welcome the first of our three Rising Talents winners, violinist Charis Shing. Seating is open and tickets are not required.



Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – March 19
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. 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.

PUCC Adventurers at the Frank Lloyd Wright House
Thursday, March 21 | 10am-1pm | 120 N. Ballas Rd, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Please join the PUCC Adventurers on Thursday, March 21st, as we tour the Frank Lloyd Wright House in Ebsworth Park in Kirkwood. The tour lasts 1 to 1 1/2 hours. Meet at church at 9:30 for carpooling, or 10 at the Frank Lloyd House, 120 N. Ballas Road. "Nestled in grassy fields on 10.5 acres in the Sugar Creek Valley of Kirkwood, is a unique and significant residence designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, widely recognized as the greatest American architect of the twentieth century. Completed in 1955 for Russell and Ruth Kraus, the Usonian house is notable for its architectural integrity and original Wright designed furnishings. The house, land, furniture, and memorabilia were purchased from the original owner in 2001 by a non-profit organization formed to save and restore the Kraus House as a house museum." It's a fascinating place. The tour needs a two-week lead time on our reservations to ensure that there are enough docents.
The RSVP date has passed, but if still interested, try contacting Jackie Eiffert, jeiffert2@gmail.com. The cost of the tour is $20 per person, which can be paid in cash on the day of the tour. Whether or not you can come on the tour, afterwards, join us at Wan Fu Chinese Restaurant in Des Peres, 12033 Manchester Road.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt | VOLUNTEER REQUEST
Saturday, March 23 | 9:30am
Parkway UCC's Annual Easter Egg Hunt is around the corner! The event will begin with craft making at 9:30am, with the Easter egg hunt starting at 10am. There will be refreshments and pictures with the Easter Bunny! We are also looking for plenty of volunteers for set-up and tear-down, as well as for donuts/coffee. We would appreciate donations of individually wrapped Easter candy as we prepare for the Community Easter Egg Hunt. Please drop in marked Easter Pail in the Gathering Space. Thank you very much! For more info or if interested in volunteering, email: Gabriel Requadt gabriel@parkwayucc.org.

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 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

AWOL: Adventurous Women Out Late
Join us as we make new connections and strengthen existing ones.
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

New COVID Recommendations
From the PUCC COVID Team – The CDC recommends those older than 65 should get a 2nd dose of the latest vaccine, even if they had a dose last fall. Also, the CDC has dropped the 5-day isolation guidance for COVID-19, meaning people who test positive no longer need to routinely stay away from others for at least five days. Isolation measures are now more in line with other respiratory viruses (24-hour post-fever and improving symptoms).

PUCC is available to help people make vaccine appointments and can help with transportation. For more information, contact Kevin Cameron kevin@parkwayucc.org.

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 right now—reach out to barry@parkwayucc.org 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.

Join Us for a Fun Day of Building with Habitat for Humanity!

On June 22, we're excited to team up with Habitat for Humanity for our annual Parkway Workday, but the location is still to be determined. We're looking for 10 enthusiastic volunteers to join us from 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Whether you're a master builder or a complete novice, we welcome you with open arms! Habitat will provide all the tools and supplies you need. Just remember to wear your sturdy work clothes, closed shoes, and pack a lunch.

Did you know? Parkway has been part of this wonderful initiative for about 40 years. In fact, we played a significant role in introducing Habitat to St. Louis. Interested in joining us? Contact Tom McKenzie to get on the notification list: mckenzie1947@att.net

Your generosity can make a difference! If you'd like to support us, feel free to send your donations to: Habitat For Humanity St. Louis 3830 South Grand Blvd St. Louis, MO 63118

Let's build something amazing together!

Community Happenings

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.

You can still RSVP by filling out this form **here**. 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.

Interfaith Iftar - Breaking Fast on Ramadan
Thursday, March 14 | 6:30pm | Fellowship Hall

Congregation Shaare Emeth, Parkway United Church of Christ and Turkish American Society of Missouri would like to invite you to attend our Intertwine Interfaith Iftar Dinner where our members will share a meal together. This unique event aims to embrace diversity, promote interfaith dialogue, and share in the spirit of Ramadan. We will be breaking fast together, enjoying a delicious meal, and engaging in meaningful conversations. Your presence will add to the richness of our gathering, making it an inclusive and memorable evening for all. **RSVP by today**. This is a free event but $10 donation is suggested to cover the cost of the meal. RSVP **here!**
If you have difficulties registering or have any questions about this event, please reach us via email at Fatma Selcuk faithlopve97@gmail.com or Cagri Selcuk cagriselcuk89@gmail.com. For more info, contact Lisa Mason lmason624@sbcglobal.net

As the Holy Month of Ramadan approaches, Turkish American Society of Missouri would like to invite you to attend our Community Iftar Dinner. Community Iftar Dinners bring individuals from different religious and cultural communities together to learn about the significance of the month of Ramadan in Islam, engage in friendly table conversation, and break the fast with an Iftar dinner. All faiths are welcome and encouraged to attend.
Iftar is the name for a community dinner held daily after sunset to mark the end of a day of fasting. Ramadan, the ninth month in the Muslim calendar, is a special time for the Muslim community. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims worldwide fast from dawn to sunset to achieve greater self-discipline, self-purification, and compassion for those less fortunate.
Note: Registrations will be closed once we reach full capacity, and a waitlist will be initiated. Act fast to secure your attendance and avoid missing out on this fantastic experience.
Where:
TASOM (Turkish American Society of Missouri)
664 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63125
When:
7:00 pm on Tue, March 19, 2024
RSVP here by March 12th, 2024
Cost: This is a free event but donations are welcome

As the Holy Month of Ramadan approaches, the Turkish American Society of Missouri would like to invite you to a special Cooking Class where they will cook an Iftar Dinner together.

Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims that begins on the evening of March
RSVP here by March 12th, 2024
Cost: This is a free event but donations are welcome

As the Holy Month of Ramadan approaches, the Turkish American Society of Missouri would like to invite you to a special Cooking Class where they will cook an Iftar Dinner together.

Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims that begins on the evening of March
Cost: $25 cash (Donation to TASOM Youth Club)

Limited capacity.
RSVP **here** by March 22

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.

Things to Ponder

Something to Ponder - as our Jesus Punctuation this weekend is the hyphen.

The Dash by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning…to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that they spent alive on earth. And now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars…the house…the cash. What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard. Are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile, remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash… would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent YOUR dash?

Video

In honor of CHANGING OUR CLOCKS this weekend, check out this blast from the past ... great wisdom here.

https://youtu.be/DyooALwfxO8

If you enjoyed that, you will like these too...

https://youtu.be/OznUQnkrC-w
https://youtu.be/JVDgD7Y64sA

Jokes

Knock, knock.
(Who's there?)
Alpaca.
(Alpaca who?)
Alpaca my bags an hour early for daylight savings!

Did you hear that people hate daylight saving time so much?
That they lost sleep over it last night.

What did the wall clock do after it was adjusted for Daylight Saving?
It hung around.

Parkway United Church of Christ
(314) 872 9330 contact@parkwayucc.org
2841 N Ballas Road,
St. Louis, MO 63131

We appreciate your submissions of jokes, quotes, photos, videos, weekly opportunities, scriptures that are important to you, hymn/song suggestions, poetry, etc. We would love to hear from you: contact@parkwayucc.org

PUCC eNews is published weekly in order to broadcast Parkway UCC events and happenings - and items of interest to the Parkway UCC community of faith. Please submit all communications requests, by noon Monday.

Updated Staff Configuration and Hours for 2024:
Gabriel is in the main office from 8:30am-2:30pm Monday thru Friday as he focuses on Christian Education and Administrative Support.
Kathy, our Office Assistant, is our building and calendar guru and is in the front entry office from 7:30-11:30am Wednesday - Thursday and available via email and phone other mornings.
Mona works on the website and helps all of us with graphic design from home up to ten hours per week.
Dawn, our Bookkeeper, is in the office a few days each month and is available via email and phone from her home in Florida.
Barry can be found at the organ/piano or in his office several times during the week - Thursday and Sunday are his long days at church.
Kevin is around each day but Thursday. He is available for emergencies 24/7/365 at 314-330-0629