





www.parkwayucc.org

April 21, 2024

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 13 Announcements
- 19 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

Lana Biondo, *President of the Church Council* [puccpresident@parkwayucc.org]

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

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

Gabriel Requadt, *Christian Ed & Admin Support* [gabriel@parkwayucc.org]

Mona Smith Herberg, *Website and Graphic Design* [mona@parkwayucc.org]

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

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

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

Julie Connors and Becca Palmgren, *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 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 Greg Schmelig.

Consider signing up to read scripture this spring or summer by scanning QR code.

Flowers given by Namoi Runtz in memory of Joe Runtz.

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

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

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

04/23 Warren Biest

04/23 Simon Ullrich

04/23 Dana Delibovi

04/26 Richard Scherrer

04/26 Gayle Engel

Anniversaries

04/21 Charles & Claire Dombek

04/25 Phil & Laura Waite

4th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 21, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude *O Christ, Our Heart's Desire* – by Robert J. Powell (b. 1932), © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation When setting out on a journey do not seek advice from someone who never left home. – Rumi

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

Welcome Song *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* | #398, v1 **red hymnal**



1. There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, And I
2. There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive Till you



know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; There are
know Him in His full - ness and be - lieve; You're the



sweet ex - pres-sions on each face, And I know they feel the
one to prof - it when you say, "I am going to walk with



pres-ence of the Lord. Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it,
Je - sus all the way."

Sweet heav-en-ly Dove, Stay right here with us, Fill-ing us
with Your love; And for these bless-ings We lift our hearts in
praise. With - out a doubt we'll know that we have
been re - vived When we shall leave this place.

Scripture 1 Thessalonians 1:1-8a | New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)
Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that God has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known.

***Call to Worship**

One:	We are each on a journey and today our journeys overlap.
Many:	We are here alone and together, aligned in sacred space.
One:	We have accepted a mission -
Many:	To be more and more like Jesus in the things we think, the words we use, the actions we take.
One:	Sometimes we are met by like-minded, like-hearted, like-spirited people.
Many:	Other times we are met by people who want to belittle us, block us, break us.
One:	We have the power and tenderness of the Holy Spirit with us.

Many:	Therefore, we will continue to work for good. We will rest and refresh along the way. We will find partners to share the blessings and burdens of this work.
One:	Come to find the quiet center. Come to be found by the Holy as you/we discern next steps on the journey.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** *In Unity We Lift Our Song* | #2221 *blue songbook*



1. In u - ni - ty we lift our song of grate - ful a - dor -
 2. For sto - ries told and told a - gain to ev - ery gen - er -
 3. For sa - cred scrip - tures hand - ed down, a bless - ed trust and
 4. For God our way, our bread, our rest, of all these gifts the



a - tion, for broth - ers brave and sis - ters strong. What
 a - tion, to give us strength in times of pain, to
 trea - sure, which give us hope when hope is gone and



cause for cel - e - bra - tion! For those whose faith - ful - ness
 give us con - so - la - tion. Our spir - its to re - vive
 make us weep with plea - sure. And when our eyes grow blind
 hand will yet de - liv - er. Who keeps us till the day



has kept us through dis - tress, who've shared with us our plight,
 to keep our dreams a - live, when we are far from home
 and death is close be - hind, we shall re - cite them still
 when night shall pass a - way, when hate and fear are gone



who've held us in the night, the bless - ed con - gre - ga - tion.
 and e - vil sea - sons come; how firm is our foun - da - tion.
 whose words our hearts can fill with hope be - yond all mea - sure.
 and all our work is done, and we shall sing for - ev - er.

*Opening Prayer

Holy One, we are still digesting this great news that death is not the final answer. Jesus is alive. Now, more than ever, we want and need to model our lives after his. Please guide, correct and inspire us in this time of worship - that we might welcome your Spirit to help us in this opportunity, challenge and responsibility. 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 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.

Children's Anthem *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* – Traditional words and music anonymous

I have decided to follow Jesus . . .
No turning back, no turning back.

Blessing the Children *Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands*



Je - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to all. Heal - ing pain and
Take my hands, Lord Je - sus, let them work for you. Make them strong and

sick - ness, bless - ing child - ren small. Wash - ing tir - ed feet and
gen - tle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Je - sus,

sav - ing those who fall. Je - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to all.
till I'm gen - tle too. Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

Scripture Acts 17:1-9 | NRSV

After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women.

But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Into My Heart* | #2160 *blue songbook*

1. In - to my heart, in - to my heart, come
 2. Out of my heart, out of my heart, shine

in - to my heart, Lord Je - sus; come in to - day, come
 out of my heart, Lord Je - sus; shine out to - day, shine

in to stay; come in - to my heart, Lord Je - sus.
 out al - way; shine out of my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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.]

Litany for Creation - Earth Day

One: Praise to you, O God, source of all waters. For vast oceans, flowing rivers, and gentle rains we give you thanks.

Many: Transform our careless waste and polluting ways.

One: Help us to cleanse, conserve, and share; teach us to care for the gift of water.

Many: Come and heal your people. Come and heal the waters.

One: Praise to you, O God, creator of the dry land. For mighty mountains, rolling hills, and fertile prairies we give you thanks.

Many: Transform our wanton greed and violent ways.

One: Help us to sow, till, and harvest with care; teach us to live gently on the land.

Many: Come and heal your people. Come and heal the land.

One: Praise to you, O God, breath of life and maker of air. For wind and wave, breath and breeze, light and life we give you thanks.

Many: Transform our heedless acts and selfish ways.

One: Help us to live justly, simply, and wisely; teach us to care for the gift of air.

Many: Come and heal your people. Come and heal the air.

One: Praise to you, O God, Lord and Giver of Life. Your love sustains planet earth and by your hand all things living are fed.

Many: Transform our neglect and abuse of your gifts.

One: Help us to serve, defend, defend and restore your creation.

Many: Help us care for your people. Help us care for the earth.

Offering Our Gifts to God



If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the stand next to the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offering Interlude *Fairest Lord Jesus/Beautiful Savior* – based on “The Crusaders’ Hymn” (12th Cent.), arr. Jason Tonioli, © 2021 Tonioli Music, LLC

*Response

Praise God whose many names abound;
Our Peace, our Rock, Our Holy Ground,
Our Home, our All, Earth's Majesty,
Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

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 our offerings become a source of hope and love in this community and far beyond us. Amen.

*Song of Parting *Just A Closer Walk with Thee* | #2158 [blue songbook](#)



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.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

***Music for Going Forth** *Alla Maestoso* – by Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713),
arr. by Allanson Brown, © MCMLXXXIII Lorenz Publishing Co.

LAST WEEK

Peter and John prove to be the witnesses Jesus said they would become. In the name of Jesus, they heal a man who could not walk from birth (Acts 3:1-10).

THIS WEEK

Paul and Silas start the church in Thessalonica, where Paul preaches in Jesus' name (Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10).

THE POINT

We are called to be examples of God's love to those around us.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Paul helped spread the good news around the Mediterranean Sea. Paul took three mission trips to share the message of Jesus with the Gentiles. The first trip was to Asia Minor, what we today call Turkey. Paul took a second trip to Greece and Asia Minor. His third trip was also to Greece and Asia Minor. Paul helped establish churches in many of the major cities he visited. Paul took a final trip to Jerusalem and was imprisoned (Acts 20-21). He was transferred to Caesarea (Acts 23:31-26:32), before his voyage to Rome (Acts 27:1-23:30). Tradition has it that Paul was beheaded while in Rome around 62 CE. Many Bibles include maps in the appendices which provide visual guides of Paul's missionary travels.

PRACTICE: PRAYER

It can be good for us to remember people who have helped us grow in our faith. Spend a few minutes drawing or writing about a person who has shared God's love with you and helped you to grow in your faith. Then pray and thank God for that person, asking a special blessing on them.

NEXT WEEK

Paul reaches out to the church in Corinth with a message of unity (Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18).

STORY SUMMARY

Paul and Silas take the good news to the city of Thessalonica, the largest city in the region—and are run out of town. Their teaching there, over a period of weeks, is well received by men and women, by Jews and “God-fearers” or “Gentiles.” However, some of the Jews in the community see their preaching as a threat. They claim that Paul and his fellow Christians are turning the world upside down with their message that Jesus died and rose again. Paul and his team claim that Jesus is Lord, the promised Messiah, the deliverer for whom the Jews had been waiting.

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: Acts 17:1-9

Paul visits the synagogue at Thessalonica. If asked to do so, how would you explain and defend your faith?

MONDAY: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul writes a letter to the Thessalonians. If someone were to write to you about your faith and example, what would the letter say? What can you do differently to improve the contents of that letter?

TUESDAY: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Paul writes of leading a life worth of God. What are some characteristics of a life that is God-honoring?

WEDNESDAY: 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16

Some will suffer for Christ. Do you think we should want to suffer for Christ? Why or why not? Why do some suffer for Christ?

THURSDAY: Acts 17:10-15

Paul and Silas are sent to Berea. What was the positive outcome of the trip to Berea?

FRIDAY: Acts 17:16-28

Paul speaks in Athens. Who are the false god worshipped in our world today?

SATURDAY: Acts 17:29-34

Athens responds to Paul. What does it mean to repent? What is encouraging about the response in Athens to the message of Jesus?

Announcements

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue – April 23

2nd & 4th Tuesday | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00pm discussion | Heritage Rm
Please join us on Tuesday April 23 for our second session on the book *The Accidental President* by A.J.Baime. This book is a non-fiction historical account of Harry S. Truman and his first four months as President. The book goes into depth about his surprising road to the White House and the many world changing events that occurred early in his Presidency. For this session we will be covering up to Part IV: June-July 1945 (up to page 227). Pot luck at 6pm followed by book talk at 7pm. For more info, contact Helen Race raceh@att.net

Meeting Our Neighbors: Congregation Temple Israel

Friday, April 26 | 6-8:30pm | Congregation Temple Israel



Join us as we gather with Congregation Temple Israel as guests for their Passover Shabbat followed by a presentation and discussion.

Address: 1 Rabbi Alvan D Rubin Dr, St. Louis, MO 63141

Space is limited & registration is required. Scan QR code to RSVP.

Sustainability Seekers Earth Day “Common Ground” Movie

Sunday, April 28 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Please join the Sustainability Seekers in the Heritage Room on April 28th, following the service. We will be watching the documentary, COMMON GROUND. Although Earth Day is and should be Every Day, in honor of Earth Day/Week/Month we will be viewing this enlightening, educational, environmental film. The running time is 87 minutes so we will be offering a light lunch, drinks and snacks to enjoy during the movie and brief discussion. The film, COMMON GROUND, centers around how regenerating the world’s soils has the potential to rapidly stabilize Earth’s climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies. This invitation is open to all, so ask your friends and neighbors to join us!

DON’T MISS THESE UPCOMING EARTH DAY ACTIVITIES AND RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES!

Saturday, April 27 | 9–11am | 16365 Lydia Hill Dr., Chesterfield (end of parking lot near the Aquatic Center)

Chesterfield will host kids’ activities with plantings, as well as providing the following:

- Free trees will be available courtesy of MO Conservation.
- Host Wildflower giveaway for butterflies and pollinators.
- Butterfly-Hummingbird native wildflower seeds giveaway.
- St. Louis Compost will give away the equivalent of 3-yard waste bags of compost per family - first-come, first-serve. Bring your own bags/container.

- Chesterfield Citizens for the Environment Advisory Committee will have a tabletop of information.

The recycling event is located at 16123 Chesterfield Parkway West, and they will be accepting the following:

- E-Cycling, Remains, and Paper Shredding:
- Electronics & small appliances (additional charge may apply)
- New/used clothing, linens, blankets, towels, belts, shoes, purses
- Clean, folded fabric, yarn

Reach out to Polly Rutherford at pollyrutherford@gmail.com for more info.

Intertwine Interfaith Initiative Tour of Holocaust Museum

Sunday, April 28 | 1:15-4:15pm | 36 Millstone Campus Dr, STL, MO 63146

Join our Muslim, Jewish and Christian Intertwiners from Shaare Emeth, TASOM and PUCC for a tour and discussion led by our friend and Museum Board Member Vera Emmons, the daughter of a Holocaust survivor.

The cost of the tour is \$6.00/Young Adult (10-17), \$12.00/Adult (18-64), and \$10.00/Senior (65+).

1:15-1:30 **Please allow time to purchase tickets at the Welcome Desk

1:30-1:45 Security including bag check (large bags are prohibited!)

1:45-3:15 Tour

3:15-4:15 Vera Emmons shares the testimony of her mother, a Holocaust survivor

The exhibition was designed for ages 10 and up; parent and guardian discretion is advised due to the graphic and intense subject matter.



To RSVP, scan QR code or contact Lisa Mason ~ lmason624@sbcglobal.net

The St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum is dedicated to using the history and lessons of the Holocaust to reject hatred, promote understanding, and inspire change.

The St. Louis Association Spring Fellowship Gathering

Thursday May 2 | 5:30-6:30p | St. Lucas UCC, Sunset Hills

Non-delegate, no-business, fellowship gathering, will be held on Thursday, May 2 with dinner between 5:30-6:30pm at St. Lucas United Church of Christ in Sunset Hills. The registration fee is \$20.00. Scan the QR code to RSVP.



The keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of our beloved UCC.

Rev. Thompson was elected at the 2023 General Synod held last summer in Indianapolis, Indiana. Her theme is:

The Outpouring of God's Spirit: Spirituality and the Church based on Joel 2:28.

Proud Art STL Upcoming Workshops and Prom

For Middle and High Schoolers | Shrewsbury City Center unless otherwise noted
Proud Art STL has some fun events on the horizon!

Saturday, May 4th 7-10pm: Proud Art Masquerade Prom.

Friday, May 17th 6-8pm: Tyler Harris art workshop. Shrewsbury City Center, Meeting Room 2.



Scan QR code to register for events.

Proud Art STL is a non-profit organization for LGBTQIA+ middle and high schoolers. They provide art workshops and special events for creativity, fun and community. For more information, visit proudartstl.org.

Special Olympics - St. Louis Metro Area Spring Games

Saturday, May 4 | Westminster Christian Academy



Please consider helping at Special Olympics Missouri's largest track and swim meet of the year at Westminster Christian Academy in Town & Country. Volunteers are needed for everything from one-on-one Athlete Buddies to Track or Swim timekeepers and others who will guarantee these athletes will have a fun and meaningful day! Please scan the QR for our

event posting to choose from a list of available positions which range from early morning to afternoon. Many PUCers have participated in the past and find this to be an amazing day. Questions? kevin@parkwayuc.org

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – May 7

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 with the TAD group as we start our next book, *The Reading List* by Sara Nisha Adams. We'll read and discuss about a third of the book each meeting, April 16, May 7, and May 21. Join us from 2 pm-3 pm, or arrive about 15 minutes early for fellowship.

The Reading List is a heartwarming novel about how a chance encounter with a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people in a London suburb. It address themes of loneliness, loss, friendship, building community, and the value of reading as an individual as well as shared experience.

Contact Jackie Eiffert for more information: jeiffert2@gmail.com

Book Sunday Shout-Out!

On May 19, PUC will be doing our annual Book Sunday in conjunction with Pentecost, as well as it being the last day of Year 2 with our Living the Word Narrative Lectionary. A great kind of send-off into the summer as the Disciples went out to spread the good news 2,000 years ago. This year, we'll have a lot of the books we, as the church, have gathered to be offered to each child who comes that Sunday as a special token of appreciation and to help start their summer off well to inspire learning and imagination. For more info contact Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org 314—872-9330 ext. 101

AWOL: Adventurous Women Out Late

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

Dinner at The Wolf Café: 15480 Clayton Road, Ballwin, MO 63011

Friday, May 24

Meet at the restaurant at 6pm. Please RSVP to cfbum@charter.net by Wednesday, May 22.

Their menu is prepared 90% in-house with great care using wholesome foods and the finest fresh, local and real ingredients.

Vacation Bible School

Saturday, June 8 | 9am-2pm | Parkway UCC

What is justice?

[God] has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)



For VBS this year, we're going to be digging into the concept of justice that we see in the Bible. This unit breaks down this complicated topic into easily understood pieces with a focus both on the smaller (personal) and larger (systemic) aspects of justice. It will be a \$25 asked donation for the first camper and \$20 for additional campers. Scan the QR code to register! For

more info contact Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org 314-872-9330 ext. 101

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

Saturday, 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!

St. Louis Pridefest – GONA Booth Volunteers

10am-7pm June 29th | 10am-6pm, June 30th

Gateway Open and Affirming Coalition needs your help by volunteering time in our booth at LGBTQIA+ Festival in St. Louis -- PRIDEFEST 2024. Please use the QR code below to join us! Questions? Reach out to our own Greg Schmelig greg_schmelig@hotmail.com



Looking for More Singers for PUC 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?

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.

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

Children Offerings Update

From the offerings given by children, PUCC has now been able to gift two flocks of chicks, a goat, a duck, a pig, and some bumblebees. Our farm of love is really growing! PUCC partners with Heifer International to gift animals to families in need around the world. That whatever the young choose, we 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.

Safety at Church

With the unfortunate rise of violence towards some churches in the news, a PUCC Council member formed a team to establish security precautions for Parkway UCC. This group started by working with vendors and a consultant. There is a federal grant program to fund security at church facilities. However, these grant programs are highly competitive, and the team learned that, if awarded, receiving the funds could take three to four years. While the team applies for a grant, our Council agreed to a plan to start with core capabilities now that can be expanded if grant funds are received and/or the Council deems appropriate. The first steps to establish security precautions have been taken.

The team focused first on protecting the Sunday morning experience. The approach is to install precautions, learn how to use them, then develop procedures and training to increase effectiveness. There are six steps. Here is what has been installed so far:

- *Call 911 Buttons.*
Alerting first responders is crucial. Emergency buttons are more effective than calling 911 from a phone. Three permanently mounted 911 call buttons have been installed and activated. Portable call buttons may also be utilized on Sunday mornings and for groups that use the facilities and want this capability.
- *Security Cameras.*
While it would require many cameras to secure the entire facility, three cameras that cover the pathways through the Gathering Space to get to the sanctuary have been installed. These views can be

monitored on Sunday mornings. More cameras can be added as a need is established and funds are available.

- *Front Door Keypad.*
The front door code is widely known and, therefore, less effective for security. A new front door code system has been installed that can provide unique entry codes to individuals and groups. The current push-button unlocking mechanism will continue to be in service until the procedures for the new system are developed.
- *First Aid.*
Triage for those wounded during an incident must be received as soon as possible. In a violent situation, medical first responders are not allowed into the building until the police have cleared the building of any danger. Therefore, people in the building who are not wounded must give aid to those in need. “Stop The Bleed” emergency kits have been purchased. Training for using these kits, and first aid training in general is needed.

There are two other steps that are in progress:

- *Public Address System.*
PA system is necessary to provide an emergency alert to the people in the nursery, the Heritage Room, and the youth rooms on the lower level. This will be accomplished using the current phone system.
- *Secure Doors.*
Appropriate doors for the Nursery, the Heritage Room, and the rooms in use on the lower level must be capable of being locked from inside the rooms, and each room needs an escape route. Other doors into the facility should be locked during the Sunday morning worship service.

The team will continue to focus on establishing security precautions and effectiveness.

We are looking for volunteers to join our team as we consider utilizing formal training sessions to develop comprehensive safety procedures. If you are interested in participating in this endeavor, please contact Council member Lisa Davidson.

Prayer List

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

Celebrations

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

We are Easter people!

Julie Welch - named to the Forbes America's Top 200 CPAs (Runtz).

Concerns

David Smith - hospitalized again (Deb Carter's father).

Stephanie - complicated surgery late April (Nick McMillon's daughter).

JD Denson - remains in the hospital with brain bleeds (Ferrell).

Jean Mueller's cousin receiving hospice care.

Rene Pelligrino and family - as she deals with multiple health issues.

The continuing war in Ukraine.

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

Safety and Peace for the people of Haiti.

Continuing

Lana Biondo and family as they grieve/give thanks for her mother; a memorial service will take place in early May.

Martha Rosenberger (Cassie's mother) - treatments for cancer.

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

Keith Mohl - stage 4 lung cancer (Mike's brother).

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

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

Tom Manor - at home, living with prostate cancer (McKenzie).

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

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

Seger Ruiz - paralyzed from car accident in September.

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

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

Sharon Thiemann - undergoing cancer treatment (Svenson).

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]

Glady 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; #126; Creve Coeur, MO 63141; 314-434-5900 [birthdate: April 7]

Other

Jones-Goldstein Family as they grow - baby girl due in October!

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.