PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS

LIMITLESS LOVE
COURAGEOUS ACTION
SPIRITED INQUIRY

Visit our Website

Facebook | Instagram

Worship With Us this Sunday

Join us for worship at 10am in the sanctuary or on Facebook Live.
Our scriptures are 1Thessalonians 1:1-8a where Paul, Silvanus and Timothy share encouraging words to an early church and Acts 17:1-9 where Paul and Silas get into some disagreements as they make their journey sharing scripture and turning the world upside down. God works through us even if we aren't well received.

Worship bulletin [here!]

Songs include: *There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit; In Unity We Lift Our Song; Spirit of the Living God; I Have Decided to Follow Jesus; Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands; Into My Heart;* and *Just A Closer Walk with Thee*

Christian Education and Youth News

Jesus
without
US

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

Join the Children's Ministry Team

Children Offerings Update

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Join the Children's Ministry Team

War in the Mideast - Israel and Hamas....Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Yemen
Safety and Peace for the people of Haiti.

PUCC Announcements

Please use the form at [www.parkwayucc.org/communications]www.parkwayucc.org/communications for all announcements for our media. Best practice can be to type your details in a Word document and then copy those details into the form. Bulletin and eNews deadline: noon Monday. You should receive a confirmation email when you have successfully submitted your request.

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.

TED

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

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. 13 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

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

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. RSVP here or please 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 | 5:30-9:00p | St. Lucas UCC

A non-delegate, no-business, fellowship gathering, will be held on May 2 with dinner between 5:30 - 6:30 PM at St. Lucas United Church of Christ in Sunset Hills. The registration fee is $20.00 here. The keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. 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.*

BREAD
FOR THE WORLD

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

After worship on Sunday May 5, you are invited to stay for a few minutes to take part in Bread for the World's 2024 Offering of Letters. By writing short, personalized letters to our senators about the Farm Bill, we will help improve nutrition for low-income people in the U.S. and around the world. Our letters —along with letters from thousands of other people of faith across the country—will help persuade Congress to make improving nutrition a priority. Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

Take action anytime from home at here to email Congress. Please check the box indicating your action is part of an Offering of Letters with Parkway United Church of Christ. For more information, contact Cynthia Levin changyit@icloud.com

TAD

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

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

Mother's Day Breakfast
Sunday, May 12 | 8:30a-1:00p

We will be hosting a pancake breakfast for mothers of any kind (animal, plant, or human) on Mother's Day. Breakfast will be served directly after the service on Sunday, May 12. The meal will include pancakes, bacon, sausage and scrambled eggs and will be accompanied by a beverage of your choice (orange juice, apple juice, coffee, or water).
Mothers and children 12 and under eat for free; all others we ask for a donation of $5 per person.
Volunteers needed!! If you are willing and able to help us prepare, serve, cleanup or all the above, you are very welcome to join. We will meet at 7:30 am Sunday, May 12 to begin all preparations. Any skill level is welcome.
Questions? Contact Phillip Waite @ 314-497-0136 or pwaite82@gmail.com

Book Sunday Shout-Out!

On May 19, PUCC 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

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

Friday, May 24th: Dinner at The Wolf Café: 15480 Clayton Road, Ballwin, MO 63011 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

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. Register here! It will be a $25 donation for the first camper and $20 for additional campers. For more information contact Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org 314—872-9330 ext. 101

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

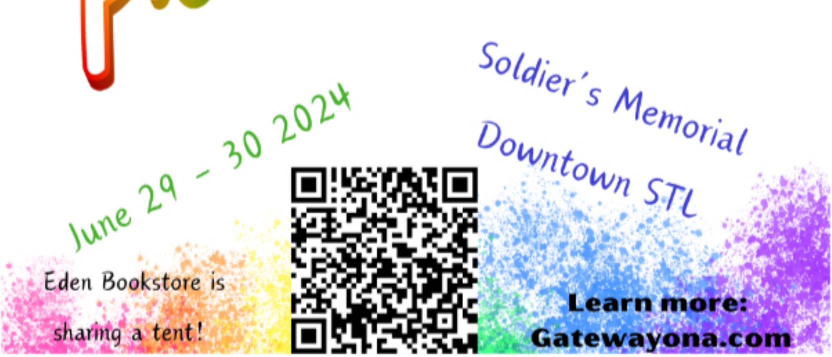
On June 22, we're excited to team up with Habitat for Humanity for our annual Parkway Workday, but the location is still to be determined. We're looking for 10 enthusiastic volunteers to join us from 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Whether you're a master builder or a complete novice, we welcome you with open 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!

Gateway ONA is Excited to be back at Pride STL
Pride
Pride STL
Volunteer Signup



June 29 – 30 2024

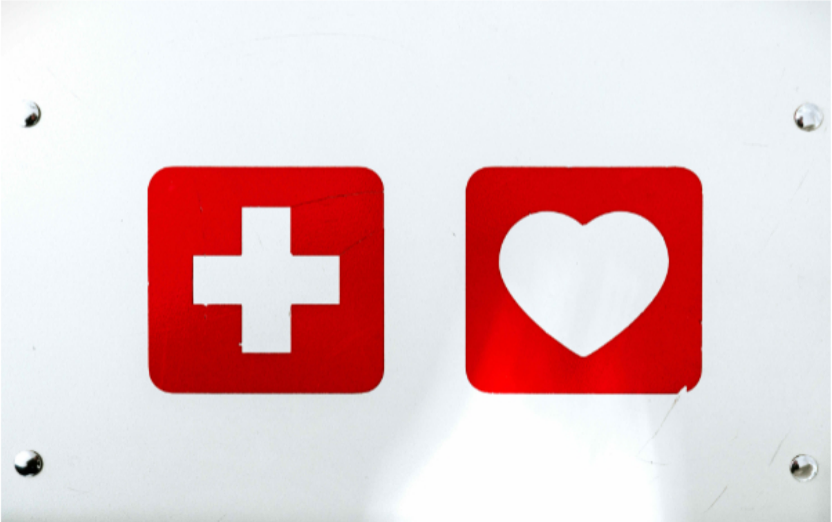
Soldier's Memorial
Downtown STL

Eden Bookstore is
sharing a tent!

Learn more:
Gatewayona.com

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 to join us! Questions? Reach out to Greg Schmelig greg_schmelig@hotmail.com



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. 17
- 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.

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.

Community Happenings

APRIL 20
UCC ANNUAL EARTH SUMMIT
TH!RD ACT
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

UCC Annual Earth Summit

The celebrated writer and activist Bill McKibben will deliver the Jim Antal Keynote Lecture for the UCC's second annual Earth Summit on Saturday, April 20th at 1 pm ET. This two-and-a-half-hour online and in-person event will additionally feature a panel of award-winning grassroots leaders who are currently in a David-versus-Goliath struggle against Formosa Plastics, one of the world's largest producers of plastics.

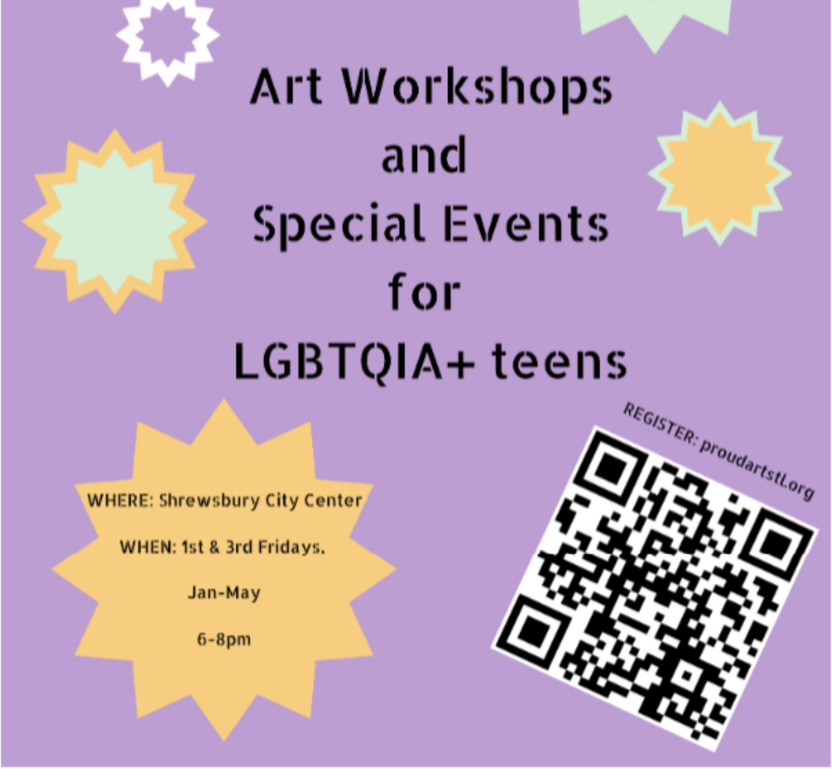
Register now to join us!

As a denomination wide event, the UCC Earth Summit serves as a moment to highlight and lift-up those who have been doing incredible work within our denomination to advance climate justice. The Dollie Burwell Prophetic Action Award will showcase collective efforts to bring about change, while a new video will present the uplifting work of our host congregation, the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College. Finally, we will celebrate all of the Climate Hope Fellows, Creation Justice Churches, and green teams across the country who have been making a difference during this past year.

Be sure to register!

The UCC Earth Day Summit is cohosted by the National Setting of the United Church of Christ, the United Church of Christ's Council for Climate Justice, the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College, and the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ.

PROUD ART
STL



Art Workshops and Special Events for LGBTQIA+ teens

WHERE: Shrewsbury City Center

WHEN: 1st & 3rd Fridays.

Jan-May

6-8pm

REGISTER: proudartstl.org

Proud Art STL has some fun events on the horizon!

Friday, April 19th 6-8pm: Decorations and Masks for Masquerade prom. Shrewsbury City Center, Mtg rm 2.

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

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

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 to register for events, visit proudartstl.org

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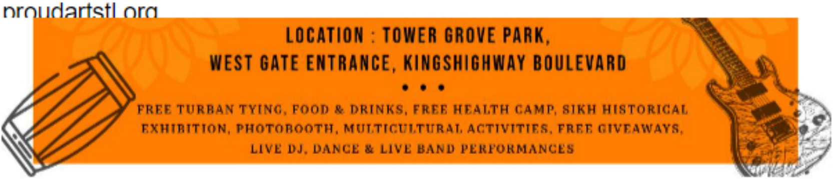


LOCATION : TOWER GROVE PARK,
WEST GATE ENTRANCE, KINGSHIGHWAY BOULEVARD

• • •

FREE TURBAN TYING, FOOD & DRINKS, FREE HEALTH CAMP, SIKH HISTORICAL EXHIBITION, PHOTOBOOTH, MULTICULTURAL ACTIVITIES, FREE GIVEAWAYS, LIVE DJ, DANCE & LIVE BAND PERFORMANCES

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

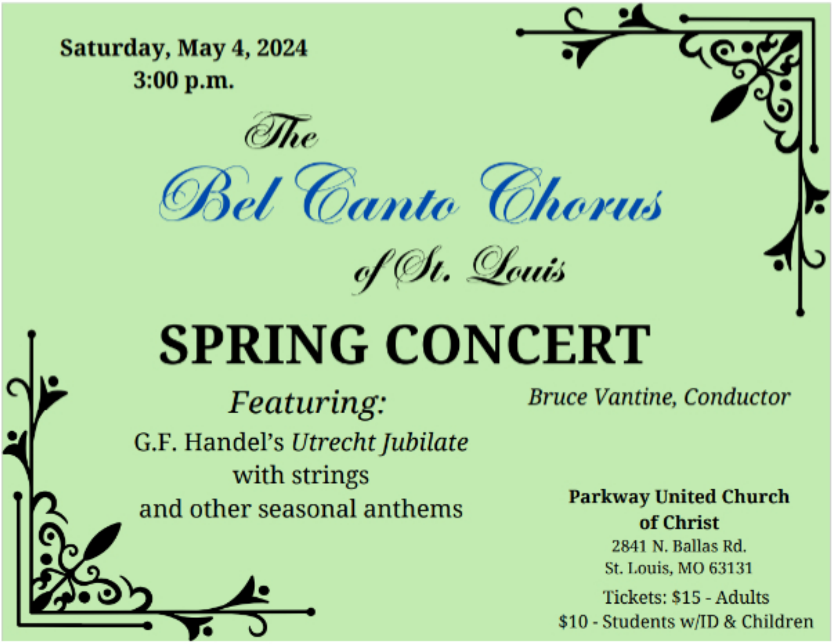
Join us as we gather with Congregation Temple Israel as guests for their Passover Shabbat followed by a presentation and discussion. Address: 1 Rabbi Alvan D Rubin Dr.St. Louis, MO 63141
Space is limited & registration is required [here.]

Special Olympics
Missouri

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



Saturday, May 4, 2024
3:00 p.m.

The
Bel Canto Chorus
of St. Louis

SPRING CONCERT

Featuring:
G.F. Handel's *Utrecht Jubilate*
with strings
and other seasonal anthems

Bruce Vantine, Conductor

Parkway United Church
of Christ
2841 N. Ballas Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63131

Tickets: $15 - Adults
$10 - Students w/ID & Children

The Bel Canto Chorus of Saint Louis

Saturday May 4, 3pm | Parkway UCC

The Bel Canto Chorus of Saint Louis presents the *Utrecht Jubilate*, a joyous work for chorus and orchestra composed in 1713 by George Friedrich Handel (1685-1759) to commemorate the signing of the Peace of Utrecht ending the War of Spanish Succession. It was first performed amidst the pageantry of the treaty celebration at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

Bel Canto will also perform three pieces from Cecil Effinger's *Four Pastorales* for choir and woodwind instrument, as well as *A Festival Psalm* by Ronald Kauffmann, and other seasonal anthems.

Tickets: $15 – Adults $10 – Students w/ID & Children

The Bel Canto Chorus was founded in 1973 with a diverse membership from across the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Things to Ponder

Beatitudes for Stewards of Earth by Father Ed Eschweiler
Blessed are they who reverence all created things as sacred: in God's eyes all creation is good.

Blessed are they who understand that creation is like a beautiful tapestry, with every strand depending on others.

Blessed are they who see the beauty of Earth as a reflection of the beauty of God, who creates it.

Blessed are they who do not waste or spoil Earth's resources, which are for everyone, even those not born yet.

Blessed are they who reverence the air--the breath of God and the Spirit of our life.

Blessed are they who reverence the life-giving waters that sustain the Earth's climate and nourish Earth's inhabitants.

Blessed are they who reverence the soil that supports our homes and our footsteps and yields abundant harvests.

Blessed are they who reverence the trees and other plants that call down the rains, stabilize the soil, and freshen the air.

Blessed are they who reduce what they consume, re-use what they can, and recycle what they can no longer use.

Blessed are they who praise God the Creator in their reverent and gentle use of all things on Earth.

Video

4 minutes from the American Museum of Natural History (2022) as we head toward Earth Day on Monday
https://youtu.be/PL31i1cu22U

Jokes

Why are waterbeds so bouncy? **They're filled with spring water.**

Did you hear about the pregnant bedbug? **She's having her babies in the spring.**

What do you call a rabbit with flees? **Bugs Bunny.**

What do you get when you push a bunch of Easter eggs down a hill? **Spring rolls.**

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.

Staff Configuration and Hours:
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