



www.parkwayucc.org May 19, 2024

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 14 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

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Welcome *to* Parkway

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

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

Flowers given by Joyce and John Ruiz in celebration of their 40th anniversary.

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

05/21 Kurt Oehler 05/21 Elisabeth Doty 05/21 Thomas Clifford 05/23 Jamie Masterson

05/25 Dan Livengood

Anniversaries

05/19 John & Joyce Ruiz 05/20 Ross & Kim Livengood 05/24 Andrea & Steven Barnes 05/24 Ashley & Matt Krause 05/25 Doug & Brenda Sperry

Pentecost

Sunday, May 19, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude At the Elevation – by Gilbert M. Martin (©Lorenz Publishing Co. 1972)

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation The church becomes irrelevant when it becomes purely a human creation. We are not all we were made to be when everything in our lives and churches can be explained apart from the work and presence of the Holy Spirit. ~Francis Chan

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 As A Fire is Meant for Burning #2237, v1 and 2 | Blue Songbook



- 1. As a fire is meant for burn ing with a bright and warm-ing
- 2. We are learn-ers; we are teach-ers; we are pil-grims on the
- 3. As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re-







hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh-bors ev - ery-where. hum-ble, lis-tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light. lives re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo-rious dawn.

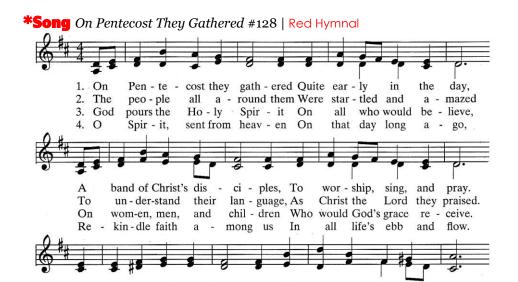
Pentecost Scripture Acts 2:1-12 | CEB – Common English Bible When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire

where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!" They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?"

*Call to Worship

One:	Come to experience the Holy One
Many:	God sends us the Spirit who blows through our lives: unsettling us, stirring us up, propelling us forward.
One:	Come to experience the Holy One
Many:	God gifts us with the Spirit who comes as a fire: warming us. empowering us, re-making us.
One:	Come to experience the Holy One
Many:	God encourages us in the Spirit who frees our tongues: for talking of God, for prayer, for advocacy.
One:	Come to experience the Holy One
Many:	God partners with us in the Spirit: the Counselor, the Helper, God's very Breath.
One:	Come to experience the Holy One three in one.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.



And tongues of fire a - glow - ing In - spired each per - son there.
That Christ, once dead, is ris - en To van - quish all our fear.
The church, formed and re - form - ing, Re - sponds in ev - ery hour.

mes - sage, What great good

lim - it, Be - stow-ing

swirl - ing

news was

and

life

air,

here?

power.

praise.

shall raise.

the

lis - ten And tongues a - flame with

na - tion Glad songs of joy

might-y wind came blow - ing, Filled all

ev - ery

*Opening Prayer based on the words of the Archdiocese of Toronto Vibrant God, breathe your life into our souls and congregation. Make us a fire of love burning brightly for all those in need of your peace and healing. Drive us out of our hiding places, and send us forth to refresh one another and renew the face of the earth. Amen.

*Response Spirit of the Living God

un - i - ver - sal

Spir - it knows no

give us ears to

What

That

So

folk

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 Anthem Chime Spirit – arr. Barry Luedloff, based on Westminster, anon. (offered by Joyful Noise! Kinder Chimes)

Children's Time Book Sunday

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 and youth will gather in Room 13 for the Opening Session. Children from age 3 to 5th grade will then go to Room 12 (lower level), and youth from 6th to 12th grade will go 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 Gathering Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship, as the teachers will bring them back upstairs after class.

Baptism of Patrick Lawrence Tuckwell

The Sacrament of Baptism

Invitation, Questions and Promises

Child: Patrick Lawrence Tuckwell

Parents: Jack Tuckwell and Natalie White

Godparents: Emma Abernathy and Will Anunziata

Congregation

One: Jesus Christ calls us to offer the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to Patrick, Jack and Natalie as they all live and grow in Christ?

All: We promise our love, support, and care!

Act of Baptism and Baptismal Prayer

The Right Hand of Fellowship and Gifts from the Church

Response I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.

When you found the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on:

You were raised to praise the Living God, to whom you now belong.

Should you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, Complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

Holy Spirit Scriptures

Jesus said, "I will ask God, and God will send another Companion, who will be with you forever." ~John 14:16

Jesus said, "The Companion, the Holy Spirit, whom God will send in my name, will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I told you." ~ John 14:26

After that I will pour out my spirit upon everyone; your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. In those days, I will also pour out my spirit on the male and female slaves. ~Joel 2:28-29

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. ~Acts 1:8

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak. ~Acts 2:4

A spirit from on high is poured out on us, and the desert turns into farmland, and the farmland is considered a forest. ~Isaiah 32:15

In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit pleads our case with unexpressed groans. ~Romans 8:26

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. ~Galatians 5:22-23

God didn't give us a spirit that is timid but one that is powerful, loving, and self-controlled. ~2Timothy 1:7

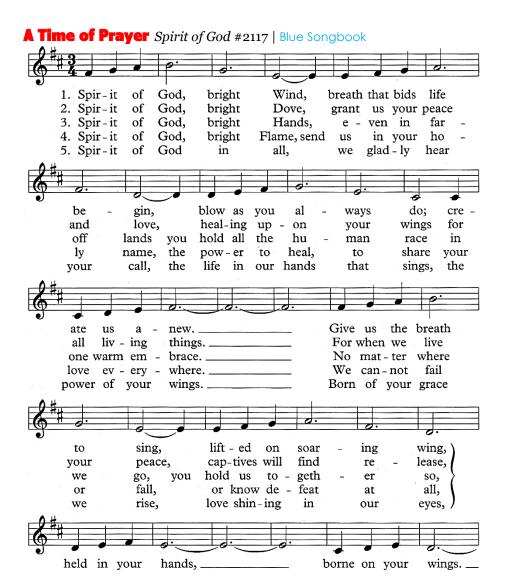
Change the former way of life that was part of the person you once were. Instead, renew the thinking in your mind by the Spirit. ~Ephesians 4:22a, 23

After they prayed, the place where they were gathered was shaken. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking God's word with confidence. ~Acts 4:31

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. ~Romans 15:13

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon



Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer sung to the tune by Nate Stout

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

Offering Our Gifts to God



If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the 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 *A Mighty Wind Came Blowing* – Music by Lloyd Larson, words by Mary Kay Beall (Sung by the Sanctuary Choir)

A mighty wind came blowing, and tongues of fire a-glowing; The Spirit thus bestowing God's presence and God's power! The mighty wind blows yet today, the fiery tongues still have their say; And if we watch, and if we pray, The Spirit will be here this very hour!

*Pentecost Doxology

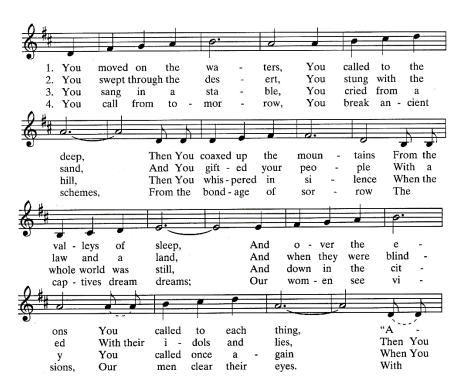
Praise God whose breath fills all the earth Whose love reveals our sacred worth Whose Spirit forms one family Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** Discipleship Ministries

God of wind and fire, breathe your Holy Spirit over us again this day. Help us to better hear one another and untangle the differences we have allowed to divide us. May your Spirit give us the power to be the church you had hoped we would be, one body, one people seeking to build your beloved community of justice, mercy, and hope. As we bring our tithes and offering to you this day, set us on fire once again. Fill us with your power; in Christ, we pray. Amen.

***Song of Parting** Spirit of Gentleness #319 | Red Hymnal





*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth Andante con moto (#12 from Thirty-Five Miniatures for Organ, OP 55) – by Flor Peeters

Sending the Word Home For your spiritual nourishment during the week.

LAST WEEK

Paul focuses his teaching on clarifying the concept of resurrection, stating that it is not just a matter of raising from the dead but of new life in God's kingdom (1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57).

THIS WEEK

The Spirit gives each of us gifts so that, together, we can be a complete body of Christ (Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13).

THE POINT

Each of us is given gifts by the Holy Spirit to serve others.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Shavuot is a Jewish festival that celebrates the giving of the Torah to Moses. It is known in Greek as Pentecost. Shavuot takes place seven weeks—fifty days—after Passover. It is one of three pilgrimage festivals, the other two being Passover and Sukkot. These are called pilgrimage festivals because worshippers were expected to journey to the temple in Jerusalem to celebrate. The first Shavuot after the resurrection of Jesus has special importance among Christian traditions as it was the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in Jerusalem. Christians often celebrate Pentecost as the birthday of the church.

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to his followers after he ascends to heaven. The Spirit gives people the ability to continue the ministry that Jesus started. The Holy Spirit brings comfort, strength, and direction. Though Jesus is not physically present, the Holy Spirit fills our lives to overflowing. Those who speak of the love of God when they are filled with the Holy Spirit have the power to speak boldly and with authority. And empowered by the Spirit, we are each called to do our part to love God and others with the gifts we have been given.

PRACTICE: FELLOWSHIP

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. The Holy Spirit is our Comforter. Comfort someone following the example of someone who comforted you when you needed it.

NEXT WEEK

This is the final week of the Narrative Lectionary year, ending with the story of Pentecost and the gifts that the Spirit brings. Make a plan to continue reading the Bible, perhaps reading through the Book of Acts.

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: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

There are many gifts given by one Spirit. How can you use your gifts for the benefit of the Body of Christ?

MONDAY: 1 Corinthians 12:14-26

There is one body with many important members. What would happen if people in the church stopped volunteering in the church?

TUESDAY: 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

You are the body of Christ. What do you see as your role in the Body of Christ?

WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul prays a prayer of thanksgiving. Pray and thank God for the faith of those who inspire you?

THURSDAY: Ephesians 2:1-10

We are saved by grace through faith. What does God's grace mean to you? How can you pass along God's grace and mercy to others?

FRIDAY: Ephesians 2:11-22

We are made one in Christ. Who do you need to make amends with?

SATURDAY: Ephesians 6:10-17

We are to wear the armor of God. How can we be strong as we follow Jesus? What can you do this week to make sure you are walking in God's strength?

Announcements

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

Book Sunday Shout-Out!

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

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am "Coming to America," by Beibarys Mygnbayev from Kazakhstan.

May 19 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Beibarys is a foreign exchange student from Kazakhstan, who has been living with his host family, Parkway members, Gerry and Mike Rogers. He will share his experiences "Coming to America," and contrast his time here with life back home. Gerry and Mike will participate as well. The speakers will appear live in the Heritage Room. There will be no remote access.

"The Saga of My Spiritual Travels," By Gabriel Requadt.

May 26 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Gabriel, our Christian Education Director, was religiously raised for many years in the Christian Science church. Christian Science is a set of beliefs and practices, which are associated with members of the Church of Christ Scientist. It was founded in 1879 in New England by Mary Baker Eddy, who wrote the 1875 book "Science and Health with Keys to the Scriptures," which outlined the theology of Christian Science. She described Christian Science as a return to "primitive Christianity and its lost element of healing." But it's more than that and each Christian Scientist has his or her own story to tell about those experiences. So too, Gabriel. Come hear his journey and learn a bit more about this young man, who is now such an important part of the ministry of Parkway Church in so many wonderful ways. The speaker will appear in person in the Heritage Room, following worship service. There will be no remote access. For more information about events, contact Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – May 21

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

Prayer Corner An opportunity to pray with someone

Wednesday, May 22 | 11am-1pm | New Sanctuary

Drop-in Prayer Time.

Kevin will be in the Prayer Corner in the Sanctuary. Come on by if you'd like to pray together.

If you see someone else there, simply wait a bit in the Gathering Space.

Other opportunities this summer:

Monday, June 24 from 6-8pm;

Tuesday, July 23 from 3-5pm;

Tuesday, August 27 from 8-10am

We can arrange a phone call or Zoom for another time if you'd like. Just reach out to me at kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

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 OR code to register! For

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

Coffee and Conversation

Wednesday, June 12 | 2pm | 14123 Clayton Rd, Town & Country, MO 63017 Join us for a beverage and sweet treat at Panera on Clayton Rd at 141 in Town & Country Crossing. Come connect!

Future dates for Coffee and Conversation:

Friday, July 19 at 10am - Daily Bread on Manchester Road in Kirkwood; Monday, August 19 at 2pm - Panera on Manchester Rd by 270 and Trader Joe's in Des Peres

No need to RSVP - just show up!

Questions? Contact kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

Party People Needed! Help Isaiah 58 Ministries Community Celebrations

Saturday, June 15, 10am-1pm | 2149 S Grand Blvd, St Louis MO 63104 **Juneteenth Celebration:** Join us for our third annual Juneteenth Celebration, showcasing black owned and neighborhood businesses. Crafts for the kids! Live entertainment! Community art project!

Email brenda@i58ministries.org if you would like to participate.

Back to School Fair: Saturday, July 20, 10am-1pm

This year they are preparing to give out 250 backpacks to local students and to have a great morning and lunch together.

PUCC is hosting an activity - BOWLING. We have done this in the past and have had a great time!

We are looking for half a dozen people to be our crew. We will help Isaiah 58 as party people and we will run our bowling game.

Please let kevin@parkwayucc.org know that you are up for this! We can carpool from church.

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



Saturday, June 29, 10a-7p | Sunday, June 30, 10a-6p 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

Urban Mission Experience

August 5-8 | Epiphany UCC | Benton Park, STL

Come take part in our Mission Trip this year with Urban Mission Experience Aug. 5-8, hosted by our sister church of Epiphany United Church of Christ. We'll be doing mission service projects in the Saint Louis area. Imagine serving in ways like helping out in a food pantry, or helping beautify a local neighborhood.

The age requirement will be 12 years old at time of event.

The intent will be to stay overnight at Epiphany UCC, but because we will be in the local area, if your child wanted to just serve during the day, that can work too! Our church will be providing the food for breakfast and lunch to be made together, and we will go out for dinner each night. Showers will available at night, courtesy of the YMCA.

The cost will be an asked donation of \$25 per person per night, so about \$75 in total. But if you can't afford that, get in contact with gabriel@parkwayucc.org, and we'll help! Sign-up deadline will be July 8.

Prayer List Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Celebrations

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

Jeffery Van Deven - just graduated from Goldfarb School of Nursing!

Concerns

Barry Luedloff - healing from first of two heart procedures; second tba. **Bill and Kathy Hilgeman** - he is strengthening at home.

John Nourse - home from hospital; health is improving.

Kathleen Tarr - home after hospital; outpatient treatment program.

Lana Biondo & family - mother's memorial service last Saty in Ohio.

Stephanie - healing after brain surgery (Nick/Sue McMillon's daughter) **David Smith** - palliative care evaluation this week (Deb Carter's father).

Jackie Eiffert - preparing for hip replacement surgery set for May 16.

Jennifer - healing after car accident (cousin of Gerry Rogers).

The continuing war in Ukraine.

War in the Mideast - Israel and Hamas.... ceasefire talks in progress. Protests on US college campuses.

Continuing

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).

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

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

Mary Herpel - Brookdale West County; 785 Henry Ave, #217; Ballwin, MO 63011; 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 Wilcoxen - 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.

PUCC Family struggling with employment; healthcare costs and limits. Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC Gun violence and other violence across the US and other lands. Conversations about the Death Penalty in the United States. Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world. Healing of relationships between the public and the police. Peace and Justice near and far. **US Military** around the globe.

A Prayer for Rafah by Maren Tirabassi Good Shepherd, Embodiment of Peace, we pray for Rafah and its people, its one-and-a quarter million people, sheltering from war, fearing the southward sweeping famine. frantic with the directive to "evacuate immediately." gathering the children, the elderly, all the vulnerable ones.

May 19, 2024 Pentecost "Spirit for All" Acts 2:1-21

Acts 2:1-4 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Today many churches will receive the Strengthen the Church offering.

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.*

It's especially poignant to receive the Strengthen the Church offering on Pentecost, the day in which God's presence as wind and fire was heard, felt and seen by all those gathered. As winds of the Spirit swept over the waters in Genesis beginning Creation, the winds of Spirit sweep over people creating community anew.

On this day, we remember that we are co-creators with God of the reign which is to come. Pentecost reminds us that we are never alone in this co-creation. Both those within our church walls and those without can be vessels of the Holy Spirit, and when we speak, we will be heard and understood. And the promise of Pentecost is that the Holy Spirit does not just fill us with words, but also incites us into action on behalf of the divine.

Look around! What work is the Holy Spirit ready to do through your community? How might the Strengthen the Church offering be a part of that work?

*https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/strengthen-the-church/