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UNITY

Worship With Us this Sunday!

Join us for worship in person or live streaming on Facebook Live.
Our services are 8AM,10:30 either Pine Ridge Hall (Meets to COVID) and 10:30Middle School Gym (Meets to COVID) Sunday morning. Our Sunday Bible classes are for ALL to feed in a class to encourage and equip hearts and ... and to look up to a teacher. there so they can connect some between that and Christ.We invite ALL to come to our classes. Our classes are for ALL to feed in a class to encourage and equip hearts and minds in a loving and supporting community as we long to see the lost come to Christ.

Sunday Bible Classes

Songs include: Yes We Welcome Here, We Worship Christ, Jesus Lord, Jesus Lord, Jesus Lord

Let's build something amazing together!

Gateway ONA is excited to be back at Pride STL

St. Louis PrideFest – GONA Booth Volunteers
10am-7pm on Saturday June 29 | 10am -6pm on Sunday, June 30

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

Urban Mission Experience
April 5-8 | Sunset UCC

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 city we will be able to return home each evening. Some days, the cost per person per night, so about $75 in total. But if you can't afford that, get in contact with gabriele@parkwaycucc.org, and we'll help! Sign-up deadline will be July 8.

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@parkwaycucc.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 in worship in evening.
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

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, 6th Fl.

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 or registration, 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 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@parkwaycucc.org

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, another seasonal anthem.

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.

Annie's Hope Male Camp Counselor Need
Aug. 5-7 | Camp Courage in Cantwell, Mo.

Annie's Hope is looking for male camp counselors to volunteer during Camp Courage. Annie's Hope offers a free summer camp for children in the St. Louis area.

While this camp does offer the fun activities associated with the concept — including crafts, canoeing and kickball — its purpose is greater, and every camper has one thing in common: Someone they love is dead.

Camp Courage is an annual getaway for grieving kids and teens ages 6-18. This year, due to scheduling conflicts, the camp will only last one week, from June 3-7, and it is desperate need of male counselors.

At this time, Annie's Hope is looking for at least 14 more male counselors so that they can hold all of the campers who want to attend. Prospective volunteers do not need to have any prior experience in childcare or grief and can reach out to the organization at Jana@jbarrengroup.org. The camp will be held at Lake Williamson from June 1-7 and volunteers will get 151 hours of community service. There will be two days of training before the start of camp, Byrne says.

Things to Ponder

We all have our own ways of dealing with stress and fighting back dread.

Simon Sinek is an author and inspirational speaker with 10 books and a viral TED talk with over 64 million views. When he's not speaking in front of enormous crowds, Simon posts his speeches to flourishing social media accounts on Instagram, and YouTube.

Recently, the 50-year-old took to TikTok with a video that has since accumulated over 1.8 million views and 217k likes. In the clip, he shared a personal mental health technique for supporting your friends during hard times.

Simon explained that his friend Maria was going through a horrible time but hadn't reached out for support. This frustrated him.

"I went to her house for dinner and she was telling me about this awful time that she had been going through," he said. "I wanted to be sympathetic but I was really p****d off that she didn't call me."

When Simon asked Maria why she had not reached out, she returned served with a plethora of text messages she had earlier sent asking him to come over. Of course, these messages were along the lines of "Want to come over?"

Though Simon was unable to read between the lines and see that his friend needed help, they devised a technique for cutting through the noise.

"She read an article that said when somebody's struggling, all they need is eight minutes of help or support from a friend," he revealed. "So we came up with a code. We write 'Do you have eight minutes?' It means 'I need you.'"

He finished off his monologue with the idea that anyone can find eight minutes to spend supporting a friend or family member.

Find this story and the super brief video here!

Video

As we move into the season of graduation speeches, here is one we might find serious and inspiring ... Amy Poehler at Harvard (2011)

"Ah I can tell you today is what commencement is all about. We are discovered as a person in this world. And that is this: you can't do it alone. As you navigate through the rest of your life, be open to collaboration. Other people and other people's ideas are often better than your own."

https://youtu.be/TTN_L_jxzFtk

Jokes

What's blink and comes out in Spring? **Paddy O'Furniture**

Why is the letter A like a flower? **A bee comes after it!**

When is the best time to wash your Slinky? **During spring cleaning.**

If spoilt showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? **Pilgrims!**

Parkway United Church of Christ
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We appreciate your submissions of jokes, quotes, photos, videos, weekly opportunities, scriptures that are important to you, hymnsiong suggestions, poetry, etc. We would love to hear from you: contact@parkwaycucc.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 oversees 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.
Barry, our Bookkeeper, is in the office a few days each month and is available via email and phone from her home in Florida.
Barry also is the point person for the organizations or in his office several times during the week – Thursday and Sunday are his long days at church.
Karen is around each day but Thursday. He is available for emergencies