



[www.parkwayucc.org](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

June 16, 2024

## Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 12 Announcements
- 17 Prayer List

## Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

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### 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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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** Ashley Milam.

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

**Flowers** Sally Dodge in memory of what would have been she and her husband's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Please consider honoring, remembering or celebrating someone by providing flowers for worship this summer. Signup on the poster on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. Thank you.

**Subscribe to our email lists** Sign up at [www.parkwayucc.org](http://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](http://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

06/16 Shaine Requadt

06/19 Josie Duke

06/17 Alice Stifel

06/20 Tavis Cameron

06/18 Perrin Stifel

06/21 David Schulenburg

06/19 Ben Duke

06/22 Sanjay Seetharaman

06/19 Ellie Svenson

## Anniversaries

06/18 Laura & Todd Schowalter

06/20 Roger & Virginia Fagerberg

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, June 16, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

**Prelude** *Fantasia* – by Johann Pachelbel (1651-1706), this arr. ©1952  
Concordia Publishing House, Saint Louis, MO

**Welcome** Let us know you are here!

**Meditation** A right delayed is a right denied. ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

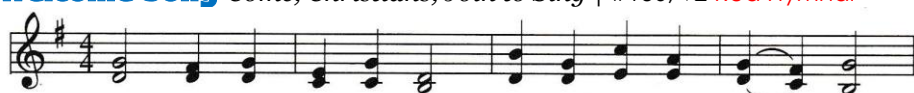
## Passing the Peace of Christ

“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** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* | #150, v2 Red Hymnal



1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore His throne re - joice;  
He is our guide and friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;  
On heav-en's bliss - ful shore His good - ness we'll a - dore,



Praise is His gra-cious choice; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
His love shall nev - er end; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, “Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!”

**Scripture** Mark 4:26-34 | NRSV - New Revised Standard Version

Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

“With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

**\*Call to Worship** based on words by Sam Hargreaves

One:	Imagine holding a tiny seed in your hand. You might see smallness, weakness, insignificance.
Many:	<b>Or we may see as with God’s eyes - and see potential, growth, significance.</b>
One:	Tiny seeds can grow by God’s plan and power into huge trees. They provide food for the hungry and homes for the birds.
Many:	<b>From the darkness of the earth springs forth life, harvest, plenty - and there is more than enough for everyone. God’s Kingdom is like a tiny seed.</b>
One:	When we look at the church, and our own lives, we may see smallness, weakness, insignificance.
Many:	<b>Or we may choose to see ourselves with God’s eyes - and see potential, growth, significance.</b>
One:	May the Holy give us eyes of faith and willing hands to see God’s dreams growing in us.
Many:	<b>May we feed the hungry with food and the bread of life, welcome the homeless into this family, and gather the harvest God’s love has provided.</b>
One:	We have Jesus as our example and model. We have the Holy Spirit to remind, refresh and equip us.
All:	<b>Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.</b>

**\*Song** *God Reigns O'er All the Earth* | #21 New Century Hymnal



1 God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and val-leys low, the  
 2 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Through youth and ag-ing years, in  
 3 God reigns o'er time and space! In his-tory's by-gone days, Christ's  
 4 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! God with us ev-ery day, in  
 farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beau-ty show.  
 death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.  
 faith-ful folk in rev-erence spoke to bring God earn-est praise.  
 all our past and to the last, our com-fort and our stay.  
 God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spread-ing plains, in  
 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Our in-spi-ra-tion still. Through  
 God reigns o'er time and space! O'er gal-ax-y and sun, through  
 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! Let praise to Christ be sung! God's  
 rain-bow hues—reds, yel-lows, blues—of streams and coun-try lanes.  
 all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reign-ing will.  
 time-less years the cos-mos hears the heav-en-ly mu-sic run.  
 pres-ence here makes all things dear. Let joy-ful bells be rung!

**\*Opening Prayer**

Holy One, we come in your image, created by you in your own likeness - we are good; we are relational; we are co-creators; we have dominion and power; we have the responsibility of free will and choice; we are tasked with weaving, belonging and forming partnerships - even with the stranger and estranged. Be with us as we recommit to follow in Jesus' footsteps, guided and encouraged by your Holy Spirit. 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 and youth will gather in Room 13 (lower level) for the Opening Session. Children from age 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade will then go to Room 12, and youth from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade will go to Room 15. 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.

### **Blessing the Children** *Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong**

**Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,  
Wanting as a friend to give, life and love to all who live**

**Yes, Jesus loves me...**

### **Father's Day Litany** Leah Schade

One: Today we think of expectant fathers; those who are waiting with joy, and those who are filled with uncertainty and fear. We pray for men who are new fathers, that they may be full partners in caring for and raising their children.

**Many: We pray for men who long to parent, but who struggle with infertility. Join their cries with Sarah and Abraham and others.**

One: We pray for men who are fathers, either by birth, by adoption, through foster care, or through raising grandchildren. We pray that they may be supported in their parenting by their partners, fellow fathers, their workplaces, supervisors, and other men in their lives; that their children may be provided with sufficient food, shelter, education, and healthcare.

**Many: We pray for fathers who have lost children. Comfort them, Holy Spirit, with your constant presence and assurance.**

One: We pray for fathers who are incarcerated; fathers who have been abusive, hurtful and neglectful; fathers who have left their families. Touch their hearts.

**Many: We pray for men who give of themselves not just through childbearing, but with their intellect, skills, gifts, physical abilities. Bless all men, that they may advocate for women to have equal compensation for their work, may be an ally to protect women from abuse and harassment, and may be valued as unique individuals.**

One: We pray for people of all genders and sexual orientations, those who are transitioning, and those who are parenting in many forms and in the many ways families come together. Help us to understand who you have created them to be and the gifts they offer in their bodies, minds, and spirits. May those who are in danger be protected during their time of vulnerability, and show us ways to keep them safe.

**Many:** We pray for boys and men who struggle against a culture of toxic masculinity. We pray for men who strive to protect and advocate for those most vulnerable – children, the poor, God’s Creation, the disenfranchised, women, and those men and women whose voices go unheard. May they heed your call to justice.

**One:** We pray for those for whom this is a day of mourning and sadness. For those who have lost fathers and other important men in their lives, that they may be comforted with the peace that passes all understanding. Surround them with your grace.

**Many:** We give thanks for men who have been our father, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, sons, husbands, life-partners, and friends. We give thanks for women who have had to serve as both mother and father as a single-parent for their children. We pray for men who strive to reflect the caring, affection, nurturing, and friendship modeled by so many who have gone before us.

**All:** Give them your grace and bless them in their lives. Hold all of us together as one human family. Hear us, Loving God. Amen.

**Scripture** Matthew 13:3-8 | NRSV

Jesus told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

## **Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **Sermon**

**Invitation to Prayer** *When Jesus Called You ‘Father’*

(tune: *The Church’s One Foundation*, #442, **Red Hymnal**)

**When Jesus called you "Father" in teaching folks to pray,  
And when he said we're children who need to trust your way,  
O God, he knew your closeness, your guidance from above.  
Perhaps in Joseph's caring, he'd learned to trust your love.**

**Some cannot call you Father; they will not use that name.  
The fathers they have known here have caused them fear and pain;  
And though you're like a father, you're like a mother, too.  
No single name can ever tell all we know of you.**

**Yet Jesus in his teaching described a father's joy  
When, at his son's returning, he ran to greet the boy.  
O God, when we have hurt you and struggled on our own,  
Just like that loving parent, you run to bring us home.**

**O God, you seek to save us, no matter what the cost;  
Our Father, your intention is no one will be lost.**

**As Jesus called you "Abba," and trusted in your plans,  
We trust in you to guide us! Our lives are in your hands.**

**You hold your children's future when all will be made new.  
Your house has many dwellings so we may live with you.  
Just like a loving father, you answer when we pray.  
In thanks, may we your children now follow you each day.**

## **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.]

## **UCC Justice Moment** 1839 | *Defining Moment for Abolitionist Movement*

Enslaved Africans break their chains and seize control of the schooner Amistad. They are arrested and held in a Connecticut jail while the ship's owners sue to have them returned as property. Congregationalists and other Christians organize a campaign to free the captives. The Supreme Court rules the captives are not property, and the Africans regain their freedom.

## **Offering Our Gifts to God**

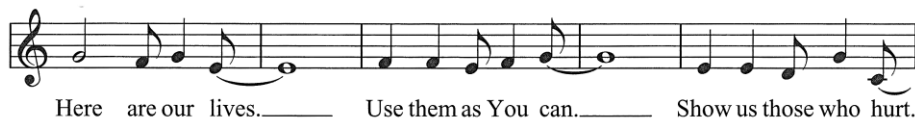
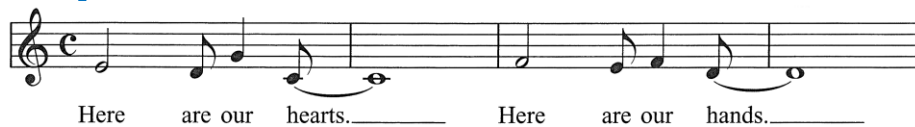


If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the stand next to the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.

[www.parkwayucc.org/giving](http://www.parkwayucc.org/giving)

**Offering Interlude** *Fairest Lord Jesus (Crusader's Hymn)* - based on a Silesian folk melody. In Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842. Arr. by Barry Luedloff (sung by the Parkway Women's Chorus)

**\*Response** *Here Are Our Hearts*



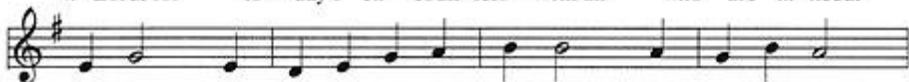
**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, you have created all people in your image. No one person is worth more or less than any other person. No one is of lesser value than any other. Help us strive to create justice for all your people - in this world that is too often unjust. Amen.

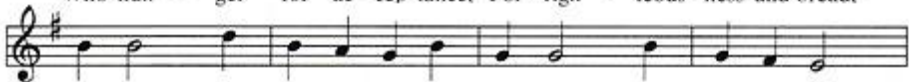
**\*Song of Parting** *Help Us Accept Each Other* | #358 Red Hymnal



1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept-ed us;  
 2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life  
 3. Let Your ac - cep - tance change us, So that we may be moved  
 4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters With all who are in need.



Teach us as sis - ter, broth-er, Each per - son to em-brace.  
 We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.  
 In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do the truth in love;  
 Who hun - ger for ac - cep-tance, For righ - teous - ness and bread.



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,  
 To prac - tice Your ac - cep-tance Un - til we know by heart  
 We need new eyes for see - ing, New hands for hold-ing on:



We are our - selves ac - cept-ed And meant to love and live.  
 To love them as we find them Or as they may be - come.  
 The ta - ble of for - give-ness And laugh - ter's heal-ing art.  
 Re - new us with Your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

**\*Benediction**

**\*God's Light Goes Forth**

**\*Music for Going Forth** *Wake the Day with Gladness* – by Anthony Giamanco, ©2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.

# Announcements

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

## Summer Cleaning Party

Sunday, June 16 and 23 | 11:15am | Parkway UCC

PUCC needs volunteers to help clean out different areas in the church—craft closet, activity closet in Fellowship Hall, Youth Room closet, Room 9. Let Gabriel R. know if you can help by reaching out to him: [gabriel@parkwayucc.org](mailto:gabriel@parkwayucc.org)!

## Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – June 18

1st & 3rd Tuesday | 1:45pm fellowship | 2:00-3:00pm discussion

[Zoom Link](#) (312) 626-6799; Meeting ID: 836 7061 7428; Passcode: 480007

Join with TAD online on June 18th as we discuss Chapters 14-26 in Crow Mary by Kathleen Grissom. Join in at 1:45 pm for fellowship and 2 pm -3 pm for book discussion. In Montana in the summer of 1872, a young Crow woman named Goes Forth, later called Crow Mary, marries a fur trader and accompanies him to his trading post in the Cypress Hills of Saskatchewan, Canada. In the spring of 1873, Crow Mary and others are preparing to return to Montana when they witness the Cypress Hills Massacre. Following the massacre, Crow Mary rescues Nakoda women who are being held captive. Thus, she sets off a whirlwind of colliding cultures that brings out the worst and best in the cast of characters. Inspired by the life of the real Crow Mary and endorsed by her great-granddaughter, Crow elders, and Crow scholars, this is an epic story that sweeps across decades, showcases the beauty of the natural world, and probes the challenges that Crow Mary faced. Contact Jackie Eiffert for more information: [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com)

## PUCC Adventurers Lunch Outing

Thursday, June 20 | 11:15am-1:00pm | 12247 Manchester Road, Des Peres

Join the PUCC Adventurers on Thursday, June 20th at 11:15 am for a lunch outing at the historic Village Bar and Grill, 12247 Manchester Road, Des Peres. TVB, as it's affectionately called, was established 40 years before Des Peres was incorporated. In 1872 it was the area's post office and general store. At that time Manchester was a dirt road, and the building provided food, liquor, feed, and hardware to westward travelers. Come get to know some of your fellow PUCC'ers and enjoy a Better Burger, some trashed wings, onion rings, fries, or jalapeno bottle caps. There are other sandwiches and a basic salad on the menu. Please let Jackie Eiffert know that you're coming, [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com). We hope to see you there.

## Parkway Habitat Day

Saturday, June 22 | 7:45am-3:30pm

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.

If you are **committed** to going, please contact Tom McKenzie:  
mmckenzie1947@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!

## **Walk to Defeat ALS—at Forest Park**

Saturday, 22, 2024 | 10am | Forest Park

I am participating in the Walk to Defeat ALS St. Louis on June 22, 2024 in honor of a number of people I have known in the past and today. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a progressive, fatal neurological disease. A friend's symptoms began with weakness in one hand. After a series of tests, he was diagnosed with ALS last summer. His weakness has spread to his other hand and both arms as well as affecting his balance, walking and now, speech. Please join us on this walk to promote awareness, camaraderie, and fundraising for ALS.

Every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed with ALS — it robs a person of the ability to walk, speak, eat, and eventually breathe. And what's even worse is that right now, there's no cure.

Will you join me and join the movement to cure ALS? It's easy to register online. Just ask me for the details to join the PUCC Team on June 22. Thank you! kevin@parkwayucc.org

## **Summer Bible Study: Ecclesiastes – June 23**

Sundays, starting June 23 | 9-9:30am | Heritage Room

Sometimes considered the most curmudgeonly and cynical of all the books of the Bible, Ecclesiastes is also praised for telling it like it is. It addresses eternal problems that have always troubled human society: the problem of pain, the fruitlessness of overwork, the vanity of ambition, the age of anxiety, the fear of death and being forgotten. Ecclesiastes reminds us that these are not 21st century problems.

This study is divided into four sections:

- Chapters 1-2 (Vapor of Vapors: Everything Evaporates)
- Chapters 3:1-4:8 (A Time for Everything)
- Chapters 4:9-6:12 (The Key to Life is in Low Expectations)
- Chapters 7-12 (Time and Chance Happen to All)

In these Bible studies, you will be encouraged to listen: listen to the Bible, listen to your own questions and responses, and listen to the honest sharing among participants in your study group. In that mix of biblical text, personal engagement, and honest speaking and listening, God's word may be heard, speaking challenge and comfort. If you would like a Bible Study book, or for more info, contact Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org.

## **Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am**

### **“Lost Treasures of St. Louis, the Book,” presented by authors**

#### **Cameron Collins and Dennis Dillon**

June 23 | Heritage Room | 11:15am

Join longtime St. Louisans Dennis Dillon and his co-author, Cameron Collins as they travel to favorite St. Louis haunts and hangouts that are gone but not forgotten. This second edition of “Lost Treasures of St. Louis” will elicit nostalgia and reveal how the past has shaped St. Louis and all who have called it home.

Cameron and Dennis provide a kaleidoscope of bygone places, events, and items once identified with the Gateway City; places like the Admiral, Ronnie’s Drive-In, Schneithorst’s, Famous-Barr, and the Highlands.

Come and participate in a free drawing to win one of Cameron and Dennis’ books.

Each 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.

## **Prayer Corner An opportunity to pray with someone**

Monday, June 24 | 6-8pm | 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:

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

## **Tuesday Evening Dialogue – June 25**

2nd & 4th Tuesday | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00pm discussion | Heritage Rm

Please join us at TED as we finish up our last session of *Eligible* by Curtis Sittenfeld on Tuesday June 25. This is a modern version of *Pride and Prejudice* and is written by a St Louis author. Pot luck and 6 pm and Book talk at 7 pm. Contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net for questions.

## **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

## **PUCC Town Hall**

Sunday, June 30 | 11:15a-12:45p | Fellowship Hall

Please join the Parkway UCC Church Council for a Town Hall Meeting and light lunch after church on June 30th. Council members will provide salads,

and attendees are asked to bring desserts. As we meet in small table groups, the Church Council would like your input on a few questions we have regarding your thoughts about, and experiences with, Parkway UCC. We value what you have to say. Thank you!  
RSVPs are encouraged for planning purposes, but not required. Please reply to Jackie Eiffert, [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com)

## **Inquirers Gathering**

Monday, July 8 | 7:00-8:15pm | Parkway UCC, Heritage Room

An inquirer is someone who wants to know more about Parkway UCC and who wants to be known as well.

The next PARKWAY UCC Inquirers' Gathering is just around the corner. Our goals that evening include:

- getting to know one another a bit more
- describing Parkway's worship, outreach, education, leadership, fellowship
- taking a look at our denomination, the United Church of Christ
- sharing ideas about the exciting future of Parkway UCC
- soliciting your thoughts on how we can be a more welcoming and inviting community of faith
- discussing some key issues of faith
- answering any of your questions

You will find our time together meaningful and informative.

Some churches call this sort of gathering a New Members Class – we do not.

While we do know that there are some visitors who have expressed interest in becoming members of the church, we do not assume that Inquirers are seeking membership. We just want to be hospitable, get to know you and have the chance to express gratitude for your presence among us.

**\*\*Childcare is available that evening if requested ahead of time.**

Please let us know if you are planning to be with us!

[kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org); 314-872-9330

## **Coffee and Conversation**

Friday, July 19 | 10am | Daily Bread on Manchester in Kirkwood

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:

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](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org); 314-872-9330

## **Party People Needed!** Help Isaiah 58 Ministries Community Celebrations

2149 S Grand Blvd, St Louis MO 63104

**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.

**ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY:** Isaiah 58 - Back to School, Sunday, Sept. 1

As in past years, Parkway is participating in Isaiah 58's Back-to-School program. We were asked to donate 160 boxes of 10-count washable markers. If you are shopping and see school supplies (especially on Tax-Free weekend) please consider purchasing some boxes.

Also, Isaiah 58 gives out new underwear with the school supplies, so we will have a collection box for those as well. Contact Sally Dodge s.dodge@hotmail.com

## **Day Mission Trip—STL Area Foodbank**

Saturday, Aug. 17 and 24 | 8am-12pm | 70 Corporate Woods Drive

Parkway is doing a new thing! For our mission trip this year, we are offering volunteer opportunities with Saint Louis Area Foodbank on the Saturdays of Aug. 17 and 24 from 8am-12pm. We have 10 slots reserved for PUCC, but they fill up ***fast***, so if you're committed to UCC's value of **SERVICE**, scan the QR code to sign-up *today or visit* at stlfoodbank.org for one, or both, of those dates. For more info, contact Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org.



# Prayer List

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

## Celebrations

**All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far.**  
**LGBTQIA+ Pride Month**

## Concerns

**Ben and Marilyn McDougall** - healing and strengthening.  
**The continuing war in Ukraine.**  
**War in the Mideast** - Israel and Hamas.... ceasefire talks in progress.

## Continuing

**Kathleen Tarr** - outpatient psychiatric treatment program.  
**David Smith** - has begun palliative care at home (Deb Carter's father).  
**Martha Rosenberger** (Cassie's mother) - treatments for cancer.  
**Stephanie** - healing from brain surgery (Nick/Sue McMillon's daughter)  
**Jan Rothman** - strengthening at Surrey Place (Lisa Duke's mother).  
**Phil Clark** - struggling with healing from hip surgery (Changyit-Levin).  
**Kari Borgmann** - her mom turned 100 this spring; health issues  
**Rene Pelligrino and family** - as she deals with multiple health issues.  
**Rebecca Ray** - that her book on suicide prevention will be published.  
**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).  
**Sharon Thiemann** - undergoing cancer treatment (Svenson).  
**Nelson Spencer** - continued treatment for multiple issues (Svenson).  
**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 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]

**Gladys 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.

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024

## **Mark 4:26–34** **Flourishing**

Jesus spoke to his followers in a parable about planting seeds. In cold climates, seeds planted can take many months to grow into plants and bear fruit. The job of gardeners and farmers is not only patience. The job is also to tend; to fertilize and water and weed until at last the fragile plants break forth, and then leaves, then flowers and finally produce. *It takes a long time for seeds planted to bear fruit.*

This week, many congregations will be celebrating Juneteenth. Juneteenth has been celebrated for generations in African-American communities, although for some communities this will be the first year that this celebration is acknowledged. *It takes a long time for seeds planted to bear fruit.*

The seeds of Juneteenth were planted on June 19th, 1865 when troops rode into Galveston, Texas announcing the end of the civil war, and the freedom of all enslaved Americans. This was good news, yes. But this good news came more than two and half years after the signing of the emancipation proclamation. *It takes a long time for seeds planted to bear fruit.*

Juneteenth was heartily celebrated in the early part of the 20th century with rodeos, speakers, preachers, music, worship and heaping tables of food, but those celebrations were largely shut down during the Jim Crow era. Recognition of Juneteenth began to be revived in black communities by activists in the 1960s and 1970s. The first legislation to make Juneteenth a national holiday was introduced in 1996. The legislation was finally signed into law in 2021. *It takes a long time for seeds planted to bear fruit.*

Whether your Juneteenth celebration this year is generations old, or is new this year, remember that it is the fruit of a seed planted decades before you were born. And the cycle does not end with this generation. As is the nature of growing things, the fruit that you enjoy in this season will produce seeds that will also, in their time, bear fruit. *It takes a long time for seeds planted to bear fruit. May the seeds you plant this Juneteenth, however small or mighty, grow beautiful fruit in its season.*