



www.parkwayucc.org June 23, 2024

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ strives to be an inclusive community embracing: spiritual nourishment, open-minded inquiry, courageous action, and interfaith partnerships to fulfill God's calling to create a just world for all.

Congregational Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ, with God's grace, seeks to be a congregation that includes all persons, regardless of race, ethnic, or socio—economic background while respecting differences of gender, marital status, age, sexual orientation, and mental and physical ability. We aspire to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our open and affirming congregation.

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131 | 314-872-9330 [p] | 314-872-9014 [f] parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org

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

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

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

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

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

John Dwyer, *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org] Dawn Friedmann, *Bookkeeper* [dawn@parkwayucc.org]

Julie Connors and Becca Palmgren, Nursery [juliestl1992@yahoo.com]

Kim Livengood, *Church Historian* [historian@parkwayucc.org]

Joyce Ruiz, Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com] Polly Rutherford, Environmental Justice/Sustainability Seekers [pollyrutherford@gmail.com] John Nourse, Pastor Emeritus

Welcome to Parkway

Thank you for joining us this morning! If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat or sending an email.

Welcome Children We invite children to full participation in worship. We also have activity bags for young children to use while they are here.

Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop their work and join in prayer.



Scripture Reader Jackie Eiffert.

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

Flowers Greg Schmelig in celebration of Pride Month.

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

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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

06/24 Bill Scheffel

06/24 Lisa Mason

06/24 Will Lawson

06/25 Chuck Dombek

06/27 Pete Shelton

06/29 Peg Sant'Ambrogio

06/29 Nancy Deuser

Anniversaries

06/24 Cherie & Mike Stolze

06/27 Paul Roesler & Stephanie Polster

5th Sunday *after* **Pentecost**

Sunday, June 23, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude *Amazing Grace* – based on the familiar hymn tune from Virginia Harmony, 1831. Cassie Rosenberger, flute

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Justice is shalom, when every person has everything they need to flourish.

Passing the Peace of Christ

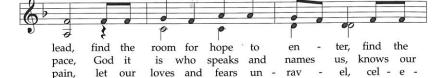
"May the peace of Christ be with you."

(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song Come and Find the Quiet Center | #2128, v1 Blue Songbook









things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim-ply be.
cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find-ing scope for faith be - gun.
Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al-ways room to spare!

Scripture Mark 4:35-41 | NRSV - New Revised Standard Version

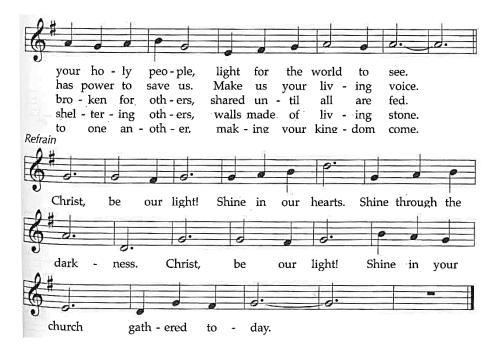
On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with them. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But Jesus was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

*Call to Worship based on Leviticus 26:3-6

One:	God says, "If you follow my statutes and keep my
Onc.	commandments and observe them faithfully
Many:	I will give you your rains in their season, and the land
	shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall
	yield their fruit.
One:	Your threshing shall overtake the vintage, and the vintage shall
	overtake the sowing.
Many:	You shall eat your bread to the full, and live securely in
	your land.
One:	And I will grant peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and no
	one shall make you afraid;
Many:	I will remove dangerous animals from the land, and no
,	sword shall go through your land."
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and
	Spirit.

*Song Christ Be Our Light





*Opening Prayer

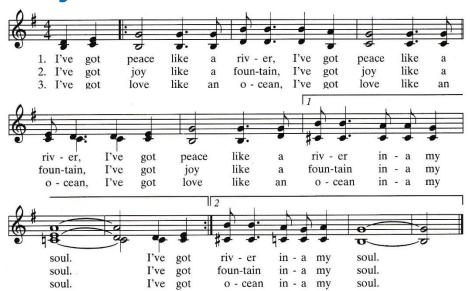
Holy One, you draw us to your light, that we might find warmth and insight. You invite us to find peace in you, that we might be grounded and calm. You lead us to places where we are fed, nurtured, sheltered - that we would be safe and secure. You give us gifts and allow us to be a gift to others. Show us in this hour how we can be more faithful and effective disciples/apostles. 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 5th grade will then go to Room 12, and youth from 6th to 12th 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 I've Got Peace Like A River



Scripture 1 Samuel 17:1a,4-11, 19-23, 32-49 | NRSV

Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." And the Philistine said, "Today I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

David said to Saul, "Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth." But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock. I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me. I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down. and kill it. Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God." David said, "The Lord, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine." So Saul said to David, "Go, and may the Lord be with you!" Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. David strapped Saul's sword over the armor, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these; for I am not used to them." So David removed them.

Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd's bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine. The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field." But David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not save by sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hand."

When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer Make Me A Channel of Your Peace | #2171 Blue Songbook



Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

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

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

UCC Justice Moment 1943 | Serenity Prayer

Evangelical and Reformed theologian Reinhold Niebuhr preaches a sermon that introduces the world to the now famous Serenity Prayer: "God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things that should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other."

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 *Holy Manna: Variations for Flute and Organ* - based on the melody by William Moore, 1825. Cassie Rosenberger, flute

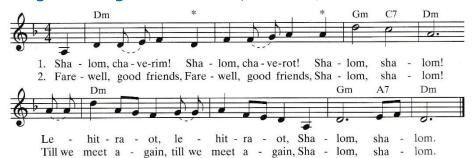
*Response Sanctuary | #2164, v2 Blue Songbook



*Prayer of Dedication Laurel Amabile

Holy One, may these gifts, given with generosity and love, help our church and our world become more peaceful, caring, fair and free. Amen.

*Song of Parting Shalom Chaverim | #537 Red Hymnol



*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth Improvisations on Lasst Uns Erfreuen – based on the familiar hymn tune from Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623

Announcements

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

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'

"How To Be an LGBTQ+ Ally," by Debbie Reinhardt

July 07 | Heritage Room | 11:15am

books.

The annual Pride St Louis will be June 29-30! Whether you will have participated or not, there is more work to do in and through our Open & Affirming congregation.

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the definition of an ally is "one that is associated with another as a helper." As allies for the LGBTQIA+ community, there are a number of ways we can stand with these beloved children of God. Join Debbie Reinhardt, LGBTQIA+ ally, advocate, and former leader of the LGBTQ+ Family Support Network, after worship on July 7.

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.

Summer Cleaning Party

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

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

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 on Tuesday June 25 as we finish up our discussion of our current book *Eligible* by Curtis Sittenfeld. We will also choose our next book selection that evening. TED will then be on Summer Break from July until August 13. We can get started on a new book over the summer and be ready to discuss when we start back in August. So please bring your book suggestions and we'll see what cool book we all come up with for our next group to read. Potluck at 6 pm and book discussion 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

Summer Bible Study: Ecclesiastes – June 30

Sundays June 30 | 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.

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.

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

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; 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; 314-872-9330

Parkway Night at the Muny ~ Fiddler on the Roof

Friday, July 19 | 6:00-10:00pm | Muny Opera—Forest Park Come and join us for a lovely night at the Muny seeing the iconic musical Fiddler on the Roof. We will get a private backstage tour before the performance and then sit together in discounted seats to watch the performance.

Fiddler on the Roof returns for its 11th Muny production. The legendary musical tells the story of Tevye the milkman, who clings to the Jewish customs of Anatevka, his hometown in pre-Revolutionary Russia. As his daughters question these old-fashioned traditions and the world changes ominously around them, Tevye is challenged to find a new way to learn and to love. For more info, contact Dan Connors connorsd@aol.com.

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.

Sustainability Seekers ~ June

This month we'd like to highlight the plants in our Native Wildflower Garden. Many people have been caught admiring the garden and asking the names of these plants. Since our garden is only 1 year old now, we're very pleased about the way it looked for its first fall and again now in the spring. Usually, these gardens take a couple of years to really look like much. So, thanks again to the Sustainability Seekers Committee for their hard work and expertise. Starting from the left and working your way around, the plants we have are:

- Black Eyed Susan
- Aromatic Aster
- Missouri Evening Primrose
- Lance leaf coreopsis
- Pot Marigolds
- Orange Coneflower
- Butterfly weed
- Purple Coneflower
- Eastern Bluestar
- American Beautyberry
- Canada Goldenrod

I may have missed a few, and we may have inherited a few new ones that, thanks to the wind and or pollinators, decided to join our garden. All pollinators are welcome in our garden! However, all "new add-on plants", aren't necessarily wanted or accepted. We are being selective and will be weeding a few out. We hope you enjoy the garden. For more information, contact Polly Rutherford Pollylrutherford@gmail.com

Local UCC VBS Events

If your family is interested in signing up for VBS, here are some of our local UCC siblings that are doing one this summer!

- St. John UCC in Chesterfield July 15-19, 9am-12pm
- St. John UCC in Manchester July 22-25, 5-8pm

Prayer List Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Celebrations

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

John Nourse, our Pastor Emeritus - ordained 60 years ago this month.

Gerry and Mike Rogers - great-grandson Myles due in August.

LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

Rocco Stolze and family - as he undergoes and heals from gender affirming surgery this month.

Concerns

Carol Cobb - healing after last week's Mohs surgery on eyelid.

Ben and Marilyn McDougall - healing and strengthening.

The Wessel Family - grieving and giving thanks for Ralf's mother.

Kristen Edmonds & Family - mourning/remembering her mother.

Greg Schmelig's father - health issues; hospitalized over wknd.

Gloria Lash - worsening Parkinson's disease (Litzinger).

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]

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.

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.

5th Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2024

Mark 4:35–41 Pushing the Boat Out

The United Church of Christ celebrates our 67th anniversary this weekend. These opening paragraphs of our history describe the ways in which very different faith communities prepared to live into the slogan "in essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." How does your congregation still live out that slogan today?

On Tuesday, June 25,1957, at Cleveland, Ohio, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, 23 years old, passionate in its impulse to unity, committed to "liberty of conscience inherent in the Gospel," and the Congregational Christian Churches, 26 years old, a fellowship of biblical people under a mutual covenant for responsible freedom in Christ, joined together as the United Church of Christ. The new church embodied the essence of both parents, a complement of freedom with order, of the English and European Reformations with the American Awakenings, of separatism with 20th-century ecumenism, of presbyterian with congregational polities, of neoorthodox with liberal theologies. Two million members joined hands...

A message was sent to the churches from the Uniting General Synod, signed by its moderators, Louis W. Goebel and George B. Hastings, its copresidents, and co-secretaries Sheldon E. Mackey and Fred S. Buschmeyer. After acknowledging the separate ancestries of the parties to the union and citing ecumenical "relatives" of both denominations, the message stated, "Differences in ecclesiastical procedure, which in sundry places and times have occasioned tensions and disorders, are appointed their secondary place and are divested of evil effect." The union, the message continued, was possible because the "two companies of Christians hold the same basic belief: that Christ and Christ alone is the head of the Church ... From him [we] derive the understanding of God, ... participation in the same spirit, the doctrines of faith, the influence toward holiness, the duties of divine worship, the apprehension of the significance of baptism and the Lord's Supper, the observance of church order, the mutual love of Christians and their dedication to the betterment of the world" ("Report on the Uniting General Synod: "Advance, July 12, 1957, p. 22).

You can read more of the story of the birth and early decade of our denomination by navigating to:

https://www.ucc.org/who-we-are/about/history/#united-church

PUCC Town Hall Next Sunday with our Church Council

Between now and June 30th, we'd appreciate it if you'd spend some time thinking about these 4 questions that we'll discuss at the round tables. Not able to be with us next Sunday? Please find a way to share your thoughts with Council. For more information, please reach out to Jackie Eiffert, jeiffert2@gmail.com

fert2@gmail.com		
1.	What's your favorite thing about Parkway? In other words, what do you love?	
2.	Which activities do you regularly attend? Are you aware of book clubs the Interfaith group, children's and youth events, service activities, fellowship opportunities? What new programs/events would you like to see?	
3.	What feeds your spirit in our worship services? How can you imagine worship being more meaningful for you? What could you do to help make Sunday morning more impactful for you and others?	
4.	Your Church Council wants and needs to keep the lines of communication with the congregation open. What else would you like to share with us — i.e. celebrations, concerns, needs, ideas?	