



www.parkwayucc.org

July 21, 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 Dan Connors.

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

Flowers given by Jackie Eiffert in celebrating Marion Pleis' birthday.

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

07/21 Judy McLachlin

07/21 Ty Waddell

07/23 Kelly Biest

07/25 Caitlin Scharf

07/25 Jill Schatz

07/26 Coree Mix

07/26 Jeffrey Nolte

07/27 Andrew Lowenthal

07/27 Diane Tallyn

07/27 Jeff Waddell

07/27 Anna Wilson

07/27 Emily Wilson

Anniversaries

07/22 Carol & Scott Clifford

07/22 Brian & Sheila Waddell

07/25 Douglas & Sally Dischinger

9th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, July 21, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude *Prelude in Bb Major* – by L. Bottazzo (1845- 1924), both arr. by Rev. Carlo Rossini, ©1940 (renewed 1968 & 1989) J. Fischer & Bro.

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Your task is not to seek for love, but merely to seek and find all the barriers within yourself that you have built against it. – Rumi

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 *Morning Has Broken* | #469, v3 Red Hymnal

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning!

Born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, praise every morning

God’s recreation of the new day!

Scripture Psalm 89, selected verses | New Revised Standard Version

I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him; my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him. The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him. My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his horn shall be exalted. I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers. He shall cry to me, ‘You are my God and the Rock of my salvation!’ Forever I will keep my steadfast love for him, and my covenant with him will stand firm. I will not remove from him my steadfast love, or be false to my faithfulness. I will not violate my covenant, or alter the word that went forth from my lips.

***Call to Worship** based on words by Laurel Amabile

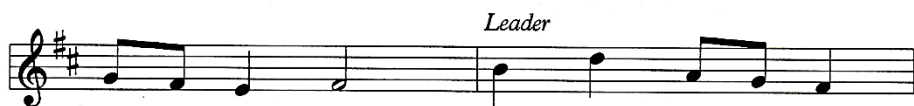
One:	We are eager to receive you and love you today. We turn toward one another and say ‘welcome’.
Many:	When you come here to be comforted, you are welcome.
One:	When you come here brimming with joy, you are welcome.
Many:	When you come here depleted, you are welcome.
One:	When you come here spilling over with gifts to share, you are welcome.
Many:	When you come here exhausted, you are welcome.
One:	When you come here with questions, doubts and fears, you are welcome.

Many:	When you come with a song in your heart and a spring in your step, you are welcome.
One:	When you feel tense, cloudy, unsettled, you are welcome.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** *Bring Forth the Kingdom* | #2190 *Blue Songbook*



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: Salt for the
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: Light for the
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: Bring forth the
4. We are a blest and a pil-grim peo-ple: Bound for the



King-dom of God! Share the fla-vor of
 Cit-y of God! Shine so ho-ly and
 King-dom of God! Seeds of mer-cy and
 King-dom of God! Love our jour-ney and



life, O peo-ple: Life in the King-dom of God!
 bright, O peo-ple: Shine for the King-dom of God!
 seeds of jus-tice, grow in the King-dom of God!
 love our home-land: Love is the King-dom of God!



Bring forth the King-dom of mer-cy, bring forth the



King-dom of peace; bring forth the King-dom of jus-tice,



bring forth the Cit-y of God! _____

***Opening Prayer** *New Zealand Prayer Book*

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

***Response** *Spirit of the Living God* | #322 *Red Hymnal*

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.

Spirit of the living God move among us all;

Spirit of the living God make us one in love;

humble, caring, selfless, sharing—

Spirit of the living God fill our lives with love!

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 from age 3 to 5th grade can follow one of our teachers down to Room 12 (lower level), and youth from 6th to 12th grade can follow a teacher 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 Gather Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship, as the teachers will bring them back upstairs after class.

Children's Anthem *I Want to Help People (Just Like Jesus Helps Me)*

I want to help people, everyone who's in need.

I want to help people

Just like Jesus helps me!

He helps all the people, all the sick and the poor

He helps all the people,

And I want to help more!

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...

Reception of New Members

Our church family is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, new opportunities.

It is with joy and gratitude that we welcome new members into our worship, work and witness today!

Questions of the Candidates

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Question About Participation

Welcome and Reception

One:	Let us, the members of Parkway United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.
All:	We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of Jesus.

Greeting of Christian Love

Sponsors: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Parkway United Church of Christ, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the family of this local church.

Prayer

Response *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* | #438, v1 **Red Hymnal**

Blest be the tie that binds

Our hearts in Christian love:

The fellowship of kindred minds

Is like to that above.

Scripture Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 | NRSV

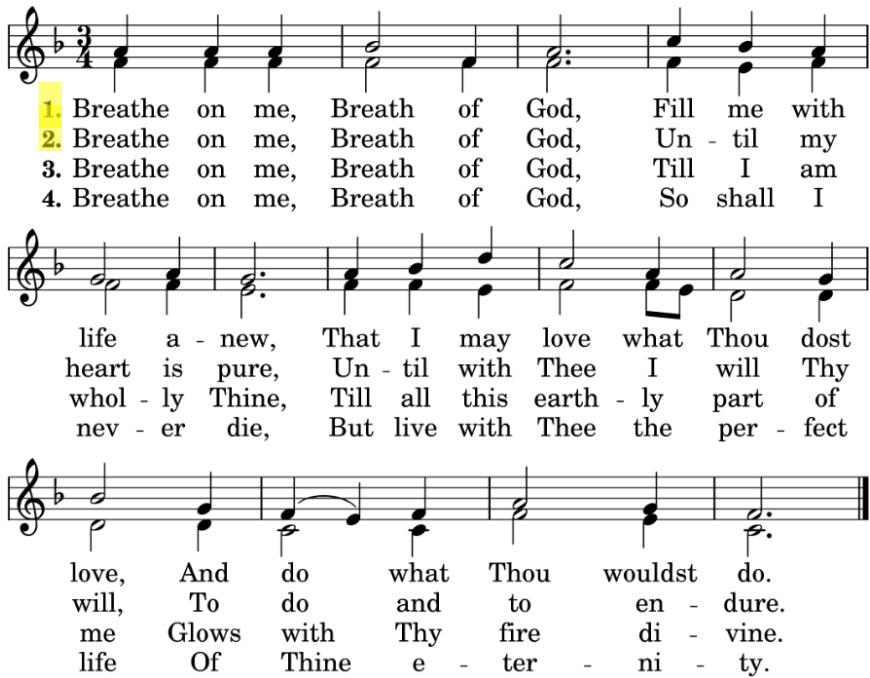
The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* | #316, v1-2 Red Hymnal



1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Un - til my
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, So shall I

life a - new, That I may love what Thou dost
heart is pure, Un - til with Thee I will Thy
whol - ly Thine, Till all this earth - ly part of
nev - er die, But live with Thee the per - fect

love, And do what Thou wouldst do.
will, To do and to en - dure.
me Glows with Thy fire di - vine.
life Of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

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.**

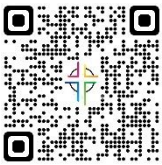
[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

UCC Justice Moment

1897: Social Gospel movement denounces economic oppression

Congregationalist Washington Gladden is one of the first leaders of the Social Gospel movement, which takes literally the commandment of Jesus to “love your neighbor as yourself.” Social Gospel preachers denounce injustice and the exploitation of the poor. He writes a hymn that summarizes his creed: “Light up your Word: the fettered page from killing bondage free.”

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 *Nun Danket All' (All Ye Who on This Earth Do Dwell)*

– Arr. by Albert Beck, from the hymn tune by Johann Cruger, 1653

***Response** *For the Fruit of All Creation* | #553, v1-2 **Red Hymnal**



1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
3. For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, Thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will be done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
 In our world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
 For the won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.
 In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will be done.
 Most of all that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

***Prayer of Dedication** *Spirit & Truth Publishing VBS: Do Justice*

God, all people are created good, and created in your image. Yet some people struggle and have more challenges than others. Sometimes our society and our systems are not just. But we are people of justice. Help us to reach out to those who are vulnerable around us. Help us to provide resiliency where we can. And help us to see the beauty and giftedness in those who may feel left behind. Amen.

***Song of Parting** *The Summons* | #2130 *Blue Songbook*



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? ____ Will you go where you don't know and
 your name? ____ Will you care for cruel and kind and
 your name? ____ Will you set the pris - oners free and
 your name? ____ Will you quell the fear in - side and
 my name. ____ Let me turn and fol - low you and



nev - er be the same? ____ Will you let my love be
 nev - er be the same? ____ Will you risk the hos - tile
 nev - er be the same? ____ Will you kiss the lep - er
 nev - er be the same? ____ Will you use the faith you've
 nev - er be the same. ____ In your com - pa - ny I'll



shown, ____ will you let my name be known, ____ will you
 stare ____ should your life at - tract or scare? ____ Will you
 clean, ____ and do such as this un - seen, ____ and ad -
 found ____ to re - shape the world a - round, ____ through my
 go ____ where your love and foot - steps show. ____ Thus I'll



let my life be grown in you and you in me? ____
 let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me? ____
 mit to what I mean in you and you in me? ____
 sight and touch and sound in you and you in me? ____
 move and live and grow in you and you in me. ____

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Two Short Postlude Variations in G Major* – (a) by R.A Schumann (1810- 1856) / (b) by Cl. Goudimel (1510-1572), both arr. by Rev. Carlo Rossini, ©1940 (renewed 1968 & 1989) J. Fischer & Bro.

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 **“I am no longer a Juvenile Lifer,” by Juan Gonzalez**

July 21 | Heritage Room | 11:15am

This is Juan's story:

On April 9, 2019, Juan walked out of prison after 29 years. He calls that Chapter 1. It started when he was incarcerated at 17 years old. Sentenced to die in prison as a child, his father's deep faith sustained him.

Then the Philadelphia based Youth Sentencing and Reentry Program stepped in to help Juan prepare for his resentencing hearing following the Supreme Court decision that made his automatic juvenile life without parole sentence unconstitutional.

The mission of YSRP is to keep children out of adult jails and prisons, and to bring home people, like Juan, who were sentenced as children to life in prison without the possibility of parole (“Juvenile Lifers”). Finally, the Philadelphia District Attorney recommended to the Court time served. Juan's freedom became a real possibility.

Juan's parents were there as he walked out into his life's second chapter. He soon found work, lived with his parents for his first two years at home, and later bought a new car and his own home.

Chapter Two, the transition, went well. Juan made his life about “showing people who I am, not what I've been through.” As Juan grows older, he knows there is a lot of life ahead: “I did 30 years, but they didn't do me.” On to Chapter Three.

All programs start following worship service at 11:15am in the Heritage Room. Please contact Richard Scherrer for any questions or comments 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Live Theater with PUCers this month! If you enjoy live theater, please consider gathering with other PUCers this month!

The Music Man featuring PUCer Lauren Schneider

Nerinx Hall - 530 E Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves 63119

Sunday, July 21 at 2pm

Scan QR code to Purchase tickets:

Contact PUCer Carmen Bumgarner

~ cfbum@charter.net



Con man Harold Hill, who poses as a boys' band organizer and leader and sells band instruments and uniforms to naïve Midwestern townsfolk, promises to train the members of the new band. Harold is no musician, however, and plans to skip town without giving any music lessons. Prim librarian and piano teacher Marian sees through him, but when Harold helps

her younger brother overcome his lisp and social awkwardness, Marian begins to fall in love with him. He risks being caught to win her heart.

Cascade's Fire featuring PUCCer Ella Penico

The Marcelle 3310 Samuel Shepard Dr; STL 63103

Saturday, July 27 at 8pm

Scan QR code to Purchase tickets:

Contact PUCCer Lisa Mason

~ lmason624@sbcglobal.net



A young woman returns to her old university to investigate the mysterious death of her ex-girlfriend. Unsure of who to trust and who to help, she finds herself trying to uncover a conspiracy that could burn the whole town to the ground.

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 Manchester** July 22-25, 5-8pm

Prayer Corner An opportunity to pray with someone

Tuesday, July 23 | 3-5pm | 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, 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

The Upper Room Small Group

Wednesday, July 24 | 1-2pm | Gathering Space

Come as you are and take part in our Upper Room Small Group. We'll be following The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide once a week on

Wednesday afternoons. Pretty laid back with some guided questions to help stir the spirit. Copies of the devotional are available for free in the Gathering Space. This will be a weekly event on Wednesdays. We would love to have you! For more info, contact Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org.

PUCC Adventurers Visit the Missouri History Museum

Thursday, July 25 | 9:30am-1:30pm | Missouri History Museum

You are invited to go with the PUCC Adventurers and get to know other PUCCers as we take a trip to the Missouri History Museum. We'll tour the new 1904 World's Fair exhibit. Admission is free. The Museum's previous World's Fair exhibit was on display for 20 years. Some of the things are the same in the updated exhibit, and some are shown from new and different perspectives. Outside voices have been brought in—Filipino American artist Ria Unson, African American scholar Linda Nance, and author Patrick Murphy—to help tell a more nuanced story of the fair. The gallery is a space to both celebrate the fair and its legacy and to examine its inequities and injustices.

Meet at Parkway UCC at 9:30 a.m. for carpooling or at 10:00 a.m. at the Missouri History Museum at Forest Park, 5700 Lindell Blvd., 63112. After the museum we'll have lunch at Blueberry Hill on the Delmar Loop, 6504 Delmar, 63130. Contact Jackie Eiffert for more information or to RSVP: jeiffert2@gmail.com

Intertwine Interfaith Game Night

Saturday, August 3 | 6:30-8:30pm | TASOM - 664 Lemay Ferry Rd 63125

We would like to invite you and your family members to our Interfaith Game Night! Not only will we have fun playing some games together with friends from different religious and cultural background, but we'll also enjoy a discussion about how our faiths view joy, family time, and recreation.

Feel free to bring some halal/kosher snack to share and/or game to play. We will also have an option to learn mahjongg (popular with many Jewish friends) and backgammon (popular in Turkey). Children are welcome; bring a favorite board game!



Please scan the QR code to RSVP by July 31 so we know how many people to expect!

Please join us at this fun event to nurture our friendship and love for one another.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue Update

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue will be taking a break for about a month, and will resume **August 6th** with a book to be determined. Please feel free to join us for one book or several when we resume. It's a good way to meet others at Parkway. We use the Zoom format because it works well for the needs and lifestyles of many. Several TAD participants first got involved with Parkway UCC by joining in on one of the book groups. TAD meets the first and third Tuesdays at 1:45 p.m. for fellowship, and from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. for book discussion. For more info, contact Jackie Eiffert jeiffert2@gmail.com.

An Afternoon of Friendship and Community West County Interfaith Alliance Party in the Park

Sunday, Aug. 11 | 2-4pm | Creve Coeur Lake Park - Greensfelder Pavilion

Gather with our interfaith friends from across West County for watermelon, cookies, popsicles and shade sitting or lawn games. Join us as we continue to build friendship and community in the county. It is clear that we need to focus on loving our neighbors now more than ever.

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

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.



Coffee and Conversation

Monday, August 19 | 2pm | Panera 13275 Manchester Rd, Des Peres
Join us for a beverage and sweet treat. Come connect!
No need to RSVP - just show up!
Questions? Contact kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

Another Isaiah 58 Opportunity

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 12-count colored pencils, and if possible, 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

HOLD THE DATE

The annual Fall Business Meeting of the St. Louis Association will be held on October 5, 2024 beginning with a continental breakfast at 8am. The formal meeting will begin with worship at 9am at Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 826 Union Blvd.; Saint Louis 63108-1040; Phone: (314) 367-8173; pilgrim826@sbcglobal.net ; <http://www.pilgrimucc-stl.org>;
Pastor Kevin Anthony

Sustainability Seeker July Article

Sustainability seekers: What is it? Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability *seeks* to balance the use of earth's finite resources. Simply, it's society's ability to exist without depleting all the natural resources needed to live in the future.

Another name for Sustainability Seekers is *environmental stewardship*. Who are we? We seek to use sustainable environmental practices in our everyday lives, at home, at church, at work and socially.

A few years ago, this poll was taken listing 10 statements regarding environmentalism. The percentages next to each statement shows how the votes went for favorite choices. How would you vote?

POLL

What's the best elevator pitch for environmentalism?

✧ Environmentalism is society's way of keeping the toilet from backing up. Without it we'd be awash in our own (hmm).

8%

✧ Environmentalism is waking up every day breathing clean air, drinking safe water, eating healthy food, having a real vote, and knowing that your grandkids -- and theirs -- will too.

15%

✧ Think of the Earth as a great bank whose funds are natural beauty and resources. Environmentalists are certified financial advisors. They give free advice about maintaining and increasing our wealth.

6%

✧ Environmentalism is about creating the world I want my grandkids to live in.

8%

✧ In our world's fishbowl we all drink the same water so don't (hmmm) in it.

5%

✧ Environmentalism is a way of ensuring your grandchildren aren't hideous, three-eyed monsters who are hungry and slowly, painfully dying of mercury poisoning in a vast wasteland stripped of color and life.

3%

✧ Our survival on this elevator depends upon its being well-cared for and maintained, likewise our survival on this planet depends upon our care and maintenance of its resources.

11%

✧ Environmentalism is about life extension. It's cheaper than cryonics and you don't have to die first.

3%

✧ Conservation is about health. We are our environment: the air we breathe, the water we drink. The health of our bodies, spirits, economies, and communities depends on a healthy environment.

12%

✧ Do you love breathing air and drinking water? Mountains, oceans, cities, streams? Want kids to grow up healthy, happy, and peaceful? That's environmentalism. It's about everyone and everything you love.

29%

For more information, contact Polly Rutherford pollyrutherford@gmail.com

Prayer List

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Celebrations

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

Jeffery Vandeven - passed his nursing exams!

Kris Impastato - now a certified archivist!

Jean Mueller - celebrating 45th anniversary of her ordination in July.

Amanda Willbrand - baptized here last Sunday.

Sharon Thiemann - successful cancer treatment (Svenson/Litzinger).

Concerns

Marion Pleis - healing after a back procedure on Friday, July 12.

Evelyn Buretta - preparing for breast cancer surgery on July 25.

Gail Haack - figuring out meds and dealing with treatment challenges.

Shara Storm - undergoing treatments for cancer (Stifel).

Political violence in the US - including Trump assassination attempt.

The continuing war in Ukraine.

War in the Mideast - Israel and Hamas.... ceasefire talks in progress.

Continuing

Rocco Stolze and family - healing from gender affirming surgery.

Chris Zoller - strengthening after recent surgery.

Kathleen Tarr - outpatient psychiatric treatment program.

David Smith - receiving palliative care at home (Deb Carter's father).

Martha Rosenberger - treatments for cancer (Cassie's mother).

Stephanie - healing from brain surgery (Nick/Sue McMillon's daughter)

John Force & family - healing after race car crash (McKenzie).

Jan Rothman - strengthening at Surrey Place (Lisa Duke's mother).

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).

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; #132; Creve Coeur, MO 63141; 314-434-5900 [birthdate: April 7]

Other

Jones-Goldstein Family as they grow - baby girl due in October!

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

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.

Sensitive

Quinn Caldwell

Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. - Genesis 12:5-6 (NRSV)

“Ugh, you can’t say anything without getting in trouble nowadays,” people in some of my circles say. “Why have people gotten so sensitive?”

For me, the answer to this question is another question: “Have other people gotten too sensitive, or have I just spent my life thus far not being sensitive *enough*?”

There was for sure a time—long ago, but still—when I would have read the passage above and only noticed Abram and Sarai, maybe Lot. I would have plowed right through and not even noticed *that they acquired human beings*. Wouldn’t have even stopped to wonder what that meant for the persons “acquired” or for us today. Would also have read about Abram and his entourage moving into the land, and would barely even have noticed *that it was already occupied by other people*. Wouldn’t have even stopped to wonder how such stories might have affected the indigenous people, or later world history.

Others, though, read this same passage and are gut-punched by these lines. Don’t have the luxury of not noticing them. And—thank God—have not kept silent about it. Which has allowed people like me to take another step toward the kind of noticing, the kind of attention, that the God who notes the fall of every sparrow is so famous for.

Prayer

For every important line I have failed to notice, forgive me. That this person is getting so sensitive nowadays, thank you. Amen.

