





www.parkwayucc.org

September 01, 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

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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 Harold Cobb. Consider signing up to read scripture by scanning the QR code.

Flowers given by Marion Pleis -- and from yesterday's memorial service for Jan Rothman. Please consider honoring, remembering or celebrating someone by providing flowers for worship. 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

09/01 Rick Hasler
09/05 Julie Stappenbeck
09/05 Vivian Allison
09/07 Jackie Eiffert
09/07 Kathryn Bowermaster
09/07 Emily Biest Murray

Anniversaries

09/01 Lara & Jared Reed
09/04 Nick & Mackenzie Nouri

15th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, September 01, 2024 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude *In a Holy Place* – by Gilbert M. Martin, arr. by Ellen Jane Lorenz, ©2012 by Lorenz Publishing Co.

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation What's wrong with our children? Adults telling children to be honest while lying and cheating. Adults telling children to not be violent while marketing and glorifying violence... I believe that adult hypocrisy is the biggest problem children face in America. ~Marian Wright Edelman

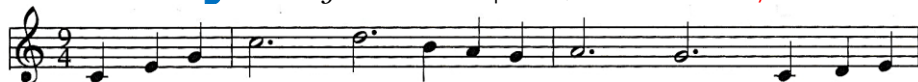
Passing the Peace of Christ

“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, v1 and 3 **Red Hymnal**



1. Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the



spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

Scripture James 1:17-27 | Common English Bible

Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from God, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all.

God chose to give us birth by true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything God created.

Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry.

This is because an angry person doesn't produce God's righteousness.

Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you.

You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. Those who hear but don't do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror.

They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like.

But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don't listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.

If those who claim devotion to God don't control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless.

True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

***Call to Worship** UCC Worship Ways

One:	We come, God of the Journey, a people from different places, different histories, different lifestyles.
Many:	We come hoping to find companionship for the journey, solidarity for the struggle.
One:	We gather, God of Hospitality, around your “welcome table,” a table not yet round, but rounding,
Many:	We gather seeking to become a round-table people, welcoming all, with no preferred seating, no firsts and no lasts... and no corners for ‘the least of these’.
One:	We yearn, God of the Rainbow, for a new way of living and relating... as neighbors not strangers, as brothers and sisters not ‘them and us’.
Many:	We yearn to live fully - celebrating both the diversity of our human family, and the unity of our call to love and justice.
One:	We hunger, God of Abundant Life, for lives that have meaning and integrity, and for relationships grounded in mutuality and respect.
Many:	We thirst for places to bring our doubts, our fears; places to express honestly who we are. We thirst for hope and encouragement as we struggle to follow Jesus in the way of life-risking love.
One:	With the gifts of your grace we are nourished.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

*Song *Great is Your Faithfulness*



1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,*
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,



with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.



You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

Refrain



Great is your faith - ful - ness! Great is your faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your



hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful - ness, God, un - to me!

*Opening Prayer

Holy One, help us to open all of our senses and clear our minds to experience you today. We want to talk about and sing about you but more importantly, we want to experience you. 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.

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 will come back up with their teachers for Communion with all of us.

Blessing the Children *This is Where Children Belong* | #2233 **Blue Songbook**



This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the
wor-ship-ing throug. Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and
cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

Scripture Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition
Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds. So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

*‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’*

“You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

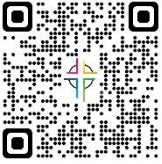
Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

UCC Justice Moment 1993: Apology accepted

Sometimes “being first” means being the first to admit a past mistake. In Hawai’i, UCC President Paul Sherry apologizes on behalf of the church for the complicity of missionaries in the 1893 overthrow of Hawai’i’s government and leader, Queen Lili’uokalani. \$3.5 million is pledged to native Hawai’ian churches and a non-profit organization

Offering Our Gifts to God



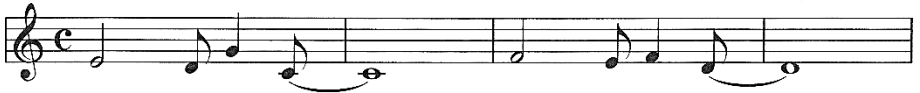
If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the stand next to the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offering Anthem *Ferry Our Prayers* – by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan / words by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan and Sidney Fowler, ©2004 by Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ (special arr. by BKL for our First Sunday Choir)

Ferry our prayers across the water,
Kindle our hopes a light-house flame.
Amazing grace is most amazing,
praying for those we cannot name.

*Response *Here Are Our Hearts*



Here are our hearts._____ Here are our hands._____



Here are our lives._____ Use them as You can._____ Show us those who hurt.



_____ Show us those in need._____ Show us how to serve.



_____ Teach us how to see._____

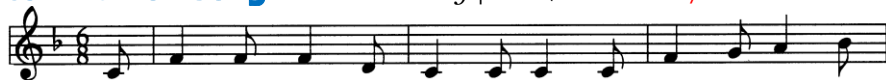
*Prayer of Dedication Laurel Amabile

With gratitude, we receive these gifts and dedicate them to our shared work: serving human wholeness, and welcoming the stranger; caring for our planet, and upholding religious freedom; walking together, always, with love and compassion. Amen.

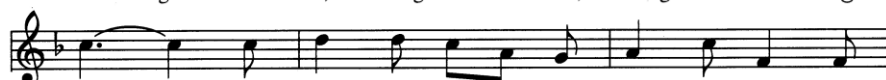
Invitation to the Communion Table We invite *all* to this open table.

All accepted—no exceptions—as we commit ourselves to limitless love, courageous action and spirited inquiry.

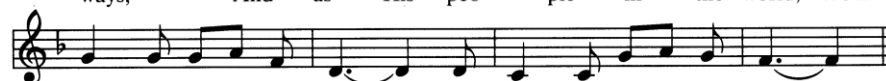
Communion Song *I Come with Joy* | #507, v2-4 Red Hymnal



1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, For - giv - en, loved, and
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near To find, as all are
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, Each proud di - vi - sion
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His pres - ence, al - ways
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, We'll go our dif - ferent



free, In awe and won - der to re - call His
fed, The new com - mu - ni - ty of love In
ends, The love that made us, makes us one, And
near, Is in such friend - ship bet - ter known: We
ways, And as His peo - ple in the world, We'll



life laid down for me, His life laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, In Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
stran - gers now are friends, And stran - gers now are friends.
see and praise Him here, We see and praise Him here.
live and speak His praise, We'll live and speak His praise.

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.]

*Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine/Juice

Please come forward in the center aisle to receive the bread and wine. All are welcome! Gluten-free wafers are on the communion table. Grape juice is in the outer ring; wine is in the center circles. Please return by the side aisles.

Communion Interlude *God, That Madest Earth and Heaven* – by Jason W. King, based on the traditional Welsh melody Ar Hyd Y Nos, ©2012 by Lorenz Publishing Co.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving Shirley Erena Murray

In the singing, in the silence, in the hands expectant, open. In the blessing, in the breaking, in the Presence at this table—Jesus, be the wine of grace: Jesus, be the bread of peace. In the question, in the answer, in the moment of acceptance, in the hearts cry, in the healing, in the circle of your people—Jesus is the wine of grace: Jesus is the bread of peace. Help us to be these gifts too. Amen.

*Song of Parting Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing #538, v. 1-2



1. Lord, dis - miss us with Thy bless - ing; Fill our hearts with
2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Thy gos - pel's
3. So that when Thy love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the



joy and peace; Let us each, Thy love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; May the fruits of Thy sal - va - tion
world a - way, Let no fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith - ful To the truth may we be found;
May we ev - er Reign with Thee in end - less day.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

***Music for Going Forth** *A Joyful Song* – by Hugh S. Livingston, Jr., based on Joyful Song by Chester G. Allen (1838-1878), ©2012 by Lorenz Publishing Co.

Announcements

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

Ice Cream Truck Party After Worship!

Come enjoy some free ice cream after worship today to celebrate the end of a great summer! Join us on the back parking lot, down the hall beyond the restrooms.

Help Needed

- Jesus Has Left the Building; p.15
- Trunk or Treat Leader Opportunity; p.16

Day Mission Trip Highlights

Parkway UCC finished its mission trip with the Saint Louis Area Foodbank last week, and we ended up helping contribute to more than 7,400 meals for the hungry through packing oats, corn, and sweet potatoes! Thank you to everyone who participated. If you didn't have a chance to get involved and feel called to contribute financially or find other opportunities to serve, please visit stlfoodbank.org.

August Council Highlights

Here are the Council updates for July 2024:

- Council approved additional improvements for the church sign at the street. The overhaul was completed on August 21, so please check out the fresh new look!
- Stan Burcham, our VP for Financial Oversight, reported that a committee has formed to conduct the audit for fiscal year 2023 and partial 2024. The Team includes Kari Borgmann, Dan Connors and Stan.
- A new team has formed! Convener Greg Schmelig will lead the ONA Team. Other members so far include Andy Impastato, Kris Impastato and Debbie Reinhardt.
- We are happy to announce that Gabriel Requadt has been approved for licensure by our St Louis Association's Committee on Ministry: Support! He is now authorized to officiate sacraments: communion and baptism. Our Parkway UCC family now has an even greater ministry within the church. Many blessings!
- We are getting closer to officially rolling out One Church, our new robust software. There will be training for leaders on August 25.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – September 3

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

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

You are invited to stop in on Zoom on September 3rd for TAD's next book for discussion, *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See. The historical novel is inspired by the true story of a woman physician in 15th -16th century China, the Ming Dynasty. It includes themes of gender roles, friendship, family hierarchies, and support systems. We'll discuss a third of the book over each of three meetings, September 3rd, 17th, and October 1st. Please join in at 1:45pm for fellowship or 2pm for discussion.

This book follows the fascinating true story of Lady Tan from childhood through adulthood as she navigates becoming a woman, and one of the first female doctors during 15th century China. The historical perspective of the book includes arranged marriages, foot binding, the justice system, and the roles of male physician and female midwife. In 1511, when Lady Tan turned fifty, she published a book of her medical cases. Interestingly, all of her cases were women and girls. Many of her remedies are still used in traditional Chinese medicine today. The author believes that Lady Tan was remarkable in her time period, and would be remarkable if she lived today.

We'd love to have you join us for one or all of the discussions.

Contact Jackie Eiffert for more information: jeiffert2@gmail.com

The Upper Room Small Group

Wednesday, September 4 | 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.

Adventurous Men Out Early

Coffee is more than a beverage. It's a pleasant part of many people's daily routine. When you combine it with banter amongst friends, it's hard to beat. Experience this simple, but joyous time, this Thursday, September 5, in the Heritage Room starting at 9:15am. All are welcome.

Questions: Contact Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Electronic Recycling – September 5

The City of Ellisville is partnering with Adonis Recycling for Electronic Recycling Events. Adonis recycles items such as computer towers, laptops, keyboards, cables and wires, cell phones, LCD monitors, MP3 players, iPods, iPads, gaming systems, vacuums and more. They can recycle anything that has ever had a current running through it.

Electronic Recycling events will be held in Bluebird Park on the first Thursday of the month February through November from 12:00pm - 5:00 pm. Drop off will be in Bluebird Park parking lot where there will be a truck from Adonis parked across from the playground.

For more information about Adonis Recycling, and what they do and do not take, as well as charges, visit adonisrecycling.com

Young Adult LifeGroup – September 5

First Thursday of Month | 6-7pm | 862 Weatherwood Dr, Ballwin, MO 63021

Are you a young adult looking for spiritual community and fellowship? Well, Parkway UCC's got you covered! This LifeGroup helps make the bigger church seem a little bit smaller and a lot more intimate. It'll have an element of fellowship and food and then we'll dive into God's word together. These groups are centered around a progressive theology that seeks to be inclusive of all. Karen Nolte is gracious enough to host us for our first meeting!

For more information or to sign up to be a host, please reach out to Gabriel R. at gabriel@parkwayucc.org.

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am "Well Bless my Soul (and Yours too)," by the Rev. Clint McCann.

Sunday, September 8 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

In many religious and philosophical traditions, the soul is the non-material essence of a person, which includes one's identity, personality, and memories; the essence of a living being that is believed to be able to survive physical death.

That is the general view, but what about a deeper dive? For that, we call upon Parkway mentor and friend, the Rev. Clint McCann to provide a further exploration and explanation of this soulful topic. Rev. McCann is the Evangelical Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Eden Seminary. He has authored books, is a widely acclaimed lecturer, and acts out his faith volunteering for social justice programs, such as CROP, Bread for the World, and Heifer International.

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

Parkway UCC Adventurers Planning

Monday, September 9 | 9-11am | 11692 Manchester Rd, Des Peres, MO

Come to a Dutch brunch and help plan activities for 2024 at Sunny Street 11692 Manchester Road at Lockett in Des Peres. We have reserved a room just for us. We hope participants will share the joy of planning and coordinating trips from November 2024 through December 2025. The group will head to Eckert's in Illinois for apple and pumpkin picking on October 4, 2024. More information on that later. RSVP Carol Cobb at ccjcoobb@aol.com.

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

September 10 | 6-8pm | Heritage Room

Please join us for our second session on the book *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar on September 10. This book is historical fiction based on the true story of the woman Johanna Bonger who was responsible for introducing Vincent Van Gogh's artwork and his legacy to the world. She was Van Gogh's widowed sister-in-law who inherited his paintings, sketches and letters. This book not only tells the stories of Ms. Bonger and Van Gogh but also demonstrates how strong women accomplish great things by persistence. We will be covering up to Chapter 24 of the book that evening.

Pot Luck at 6pm followed by book discussion ending at 7:30 that evening. AWOL will be holding the Debate Watch that evening in the Heritage Room directly following TED. Please join us and stay for the Debate Watch too! For questions, please contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net.

Go AWOL with us - Adventurous Women Out Late

Come begin, strengthen or renew relationships with other PUCW women.

Tuesday, Sept 10th, 7:30pm: DEBATE WATCH PARTY at church – Heritage Room. Bring a blanket and a snack! Thanks to Julie Connors for this idea!

Thursday, September 19th 7pm: FREE SYMPHONY CONCERT/
FIREWORKS ON ART HILL

This is one of many amazing annual events in St Louis. You will not be disappointed. Meet at church to carpool to Forest Park at 5:30pm

Friday, October 25th 7pm: Repertory Theater: THE ROOMMATE (tix TBA)
“I guess everybody wants to start over.” In the quietest corner of the Midwest, middle-aged Sharon, recently divorced and seeking a sensible roommate, opens her home to Robyn, a mysterious woman with a murky past. Entwining this unlikely duo's lives in shared dish-duty and shady business, Jen Silverman takes us on an uproarious journey of self-discovery, secrets and revelations. Challenge societal norms, embrace the unexpected, and revel in the reinvention that only true friendship can spark in this dark comedy that proves coming of age can happen anytime, anywhere- even your own kitchen table!

RSVP by [September 8th](#) to cbum@charter.net

Saturday, November 9th at 5pm: Dinner and Movie

Join us for a lovely dinner and a great movie at Plaza Frontenac, More details to come as we get closer to the date.

Sunday, December 8th at 7pm: STIFEL THEATER: Celtic Woman Christmas Symphony (\$70)

They will help us get into the season! Experience a taste at <https://www.celticwoman.com/>

RSVP by [September 8th](#) to cbum@charter.net

Please reach out to Kevin@parkwayucc.org if finances are hindering your participation in any of these events.

ART EXHIBIT: "Be the Miracle" Meditative Paintings & Poetry by Angela L. Chostner

Thursday, Sept. 12 | 4:30-7:30pm | 13525 Clayton Rd., Saint Louis, MO 63141

Join us at Longview Farm Park Art Gallery for an evening of peaceful art and deep discussion! PUCW Angela L. Chostner is a solo exhibition, free and open to the public. Angela's vision for this experience of art is anchored in what transforms all life - Light, Sound, Water, Time and Wind. It is layered with the energy of virtues of acceptance, flexibility, trust, truthfulness, creativity and reverence. It carries intentions for healing. It speaks the universal language of the heart and honors the divine spark within us all. Light refreshments served. Looking forward to seeing you there!

For more info, contact Angela Chostner at: achostner@gmail.com

Helping with Special Olympics Bocce Tournament

Saturday, Sept. 14 | 11am-3pm | 123 Leon Hall Pkwy, Hillsboro, MO, 63050

Join us for the St. Louis Metro Area Special Olympics Bocce Tournament at Hillsboro High School.

We are looking for four people to join Kevin in helping to facilitate games, cheer for the athletes, keep score of matches and assist with breakdown and loading of bocce courts into SOMO vehicles at the end of the day.

Don't fret if you aren't a trained bocce professional ... when we arrive, there will be training to go over the game and its rules ~ no prior knowledge of bocce is needed!

To sign up or find more information, please contact kevin@parkwayucc.org

* A free SOMO volunteer t-shirt is part of the deal!

Annual Shred Day Event

Saturday, Sept. 14 | 7am-1pm | Historic Sanctuary Parking Lot

Come bring any personal papers you need to shred! For more info, contact kathy@parkwayucc.org.

Fall Friendship Dinners Signup

Sign up by September 15, 2024

It's time once again for our Fall Friendship Dinners. You can sign up to be both a host and a guest, or just sign up to be a guest. There is a signup poster in the Gathering Space; please sign up by Sunday, September 15. The Friendship Team will meet to organize groups geographically friendly for the attendees. Hosts need to provide contact information and the number of guests they can accommodate. Guests need to provide contact information. Dinners are currently planned for September, October, or early November. For additional information, or to sign up please contact Kathy Burcham at kathleenburcham@sbcglobal.net.

Updates in Alzheimer's and Dementia in an Era of Treatment

Tuesday, September 17 | 4:00pm | 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Saint Louis, MO

Presented by the Alzheimer's Association at the Clark Family Branch STL Library, Dr. Rebecca Edelmayer, Senior Director of Scientific Engagement at the Alzheimer's Association, will share the latest news in detection, diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's and other dementia, including research being done in St. Louis. Free event! Light refreshments provided.



Registration recommended by scanning QR code.

Jesus Has Left the Building!

Our next JHLTB will be on Sept. 29, the fifth Sunday of the month. If you would like to be on the planning team, please contact kevin@parkwayucc.org

Intertwine Interfaith

Sunday, September 22 | 3-4:30pm | Fellowship Hall

We are hosting a mission project with our Jewish and Muslim friends from Shaare Emeth and TASOM (Turkish American Society of Missouri). No prep is needed. Just come and enjoy our service opportunity and the delightful and important work of building community. RSVP or questions to kevin@parkwayucc.org

Saint Louis Metro Area Crop Walk

Sunday, Sept. 29 | 1:30-3pm | 475 East Lockwood Webster Groves MO 63119

The 2024 CROP HUNGER WALK will be held at Eden Seminary on Sunday, September 29. Check in time is 1:30pm and walk step off time is 2:00pm. There is a one mile walk and 3-mile walk. Some of the monies raised go to St. Louis local organizations, Circle of Concern, Webster Rock Hill Ministries, and Crisis Food Center in Alton, IL. The remainder goes to Crop World Service for distribution to those in need.

For more details and to register, raise funds and/or donate: www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo. Type in Parkway UCC where you may join the team or make a donation. For more information, contact Susan Moellering susieqslp@sbcglobal.net.

Trunk or Treat Leadership Opportunity!

We are looking to do Trunk or Treat this October. Last year was a real hit! But in order to make it happen, we need someone to lead it. If you interested, please reach out to Gabriel R. gabriel@parkwayucc.org. Thanks! Once a leader is identified, we will be seeking others to help.

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

Prayer List

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Celebrations

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

Concerns

Yakel Family - Memorial Service for Amy's mother was last Saturday.

Lisa, Ben, Josie Duke - grieving/giving thanks for mom/grandmother Janet Rothman; Memorial Service will be here at PUCC at 11am on Saturday, August 31 with a visitation beginning at 10am.

Roesler/Polsters - mourning the death of Paul's mother; visitation will take place on Saturday, August 31st at Kutis Affton Chapel from 1-3pm.

Bill and Pat Owens - as he began cancer treatments this week.

The continuing war in Ukraine.

War in the Mideast - including Israel and Hamas.

Continuing

Shara Storm - undergoing treatments for cancer (Stifel).

Carol Combs - end of life journey (Reinhardt).

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

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

Kari Borgmann - her mom turned 100 this year; 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 (John and Joyce Ruiz).

Joseph Miller - long road to healing (son of Deb Carter).

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

Lewis Junior Burcham - *The Glenwood*; 1635 N. Baltimore Ave; Mt. Zion, IL 62549; 217-864-1757 [birthday: January 15]

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; 314-993-0469 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 - 13510 Weston Park Dr; STL, MO 63131; 314-369-4885 [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!

Pres Biden, VP Harris, Congress, all local, national, world leaders.

The “me too” Movement - shining a light on sexual abuse.

All people who live with mental illness & those dealing with meds.

Caregivers of all shapes and sizes.

PUCC Family struggling with employment; healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC

Gun violence and other violence across the US and other lands.

Conversations about the Death Penalty in the United States.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

Peace and Justice near and far.

US Military around the globe.

Drivers needed: From time to time, PUCers are in need of rides to medical appts when their usual circle of support is unavailable. Please let kevin@parkwayucc.org know and he will add you to the call list. Thanks!

What I Wish the Bible Didn't Say

Chris Mereschuk

Wives, be subject to your husbands as to the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church... Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and trembling, in singleness of heart, as you obey Christ... - Ephesians 5:22-23a, 6:5 (NRSVUE)

You ever read scripture and kinda wish you hadn't? Inspiring biblical calls for justice, righteousness, and radical liberation are inter-spliced with misogyny, patriarchy, xenophobia, racism, exploitation, and sexualized violence. Oh, how I wish these wretched things weren't in there! But they're in there.

Along with ancient divine wisdom, scripture lays bare enduring, terrifying truths about human existence and how we treat one another based on our beliefs. But there's a difference between acknowledging these things as socio-historical facts, and venerating them as divine blessings for injustice and oppression.

Some folks dismiss the entire Bible because of scriptures such as these verses from Ephesians, perhaps believing the parts corrupt the whole. Ignoring them is not an option, because that's hypocrisy.

For those of us who choose to look to the Bible as our guide, how do we contend with scriptures that cause us to recoil? How do we hold this tension and reconcile the simultaneous beauty and horror? Accepting the existence of these scriptures is not the same as affirming and adopting their teachings. Again, ignoring them is not an option. But wrestling and arguing with them is. We can learn about translations and context. Dissect and deconstruct them. Talk and pray about them. And make your case for what you do believe. Because that's in there, too.

Prayer

Divine Author: Our sacred text is unsettlingly complex, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Help us wrestle with it so we can understand and proclaim your Word. Amen.

**HOST A DINNER
ACROSS
DIFFERENCE IN
YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD
OR COMMUNITY!**



THE PEOPLE'S SUPPER

Change moves at the speed of relationship



TRAINING
The Drip Community Coffee House | 3615 Potomac St.
September 8th, 5:00-6:30pm doors open at 4:00pm

Join the Movement! In what feels like an increasingly divisive world, we feel the pull toward practicing neighborliness — getting to know the people on our street, in our community, and in our organizations more deeply. So, we are promoting a People's Supper campaign during the height of election season to help remind each other what community is really about: relationship not about politics. The People's Supper uses shared meals to build trust and connection among people of different identities and perspectives. This work was born of a belief — to quote a popular adage — that “change moves at the speed of trust,” and that trust moves at the speed of relationships.

It starts with an invitation. Hosts will reach out to people in their communities they don't yet know to invite them to a small dinner of 6-8 people in their home, at a local restaurant, or a neutral location like a church or community center. Some of these folks might be people hosts know a little, but not deeply. Others might be people they don't know at all. And still others might be neighbors who hold different beliefs.

Dinner is served. Dinner is simple. Maybe everyone clips in for a pizza, or you pick some things from your summer garden to serve. Dinner (or brunch or lunch) is the mechanism of the relationship, not the point, so go simple.

Relationships are built. Each host will have access to a toolkit that involves a script with an introduction, ice-breaker questions, ground rules, and 3-4 discussion questions. The toolkit will also give hosts some tips for how to redirect conversation away from politics (if it comes up).

What happens after? After all of the dinners, hosts will be invited to debrief the experience and see if there are any natural next steps that arise.

For more information, contact kevin@parkwayucc.org