

A watercolor illustration of a forest scene. The background is filled with various shades of green and yellow, representing foliage and sunlight filtering through the trees. The word "Hope" is written in a large, elegant, cursive script in a golden-yellow color, centered in the lower half of the image.

Hope



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org

December 01, 2024

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 11 Announcements
- 18 Prayer List

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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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 Ellie Svenson

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

Flowers given by Charlotte Smith in memory of her husband, Dwight. 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 reach out to contact@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>

1st Sunday of Advent: Hope

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

Prelude *Macht hoch die Tür* (Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates) – by August Lemke, 1849, arr. by Albert Beck

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Hope will never be silent. ~Harvey Milk

Passing the Hope of Christ

“May the hope of Christ be with you.”

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

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Choral Introit *Prepare the Way for the Lord* - by Deborah Govenor, © 1998 by Hope Publishing Company

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight God's paths.

All nations shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Advent Welcome Song *We Are Waiting For You*

D A/D Gadd9 D

We are wait - ing for you, know-ing that you_

A/D Gadd9 D A/D Gadd9

al-ways a - bidc, we are wak - ing_ to your pres-ence

D A/D Gadd9

and our hearts are_ o - pen wide,

A7sus D A/D Gadd9 A7sus D

o - pen_ wide... o - pen_ wide.

*Gathering at the Advent Wreath ~ Hope Lisa Hancock

One: From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14).

Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

Many: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God’s grace already at work in our midst.

One: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God’s kin-dom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

All: Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Advent Sharing ~ Hope

Prayer

Holy One, Emmanuel, God with us always, help us to live with hope. We want hope to show up in our words, thoughts, prayers and actions. Guide us into places where we can be firm and flexible in your hope. Amen.

Response *Lead Me, Guide Me* | #2214 [Blue Songbook](#)

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Children's Time For children under the age of 3, parents are invited to take them to Room 06 (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 06, parents please pick them up for communion or after worship. Children and youth from age 3 thru high school will return to the sanctuary for communion.

Blessing the Children *Be Near Me, Lord Jesus*

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And teach us, dear Jesus, to laugh and to share.**

Mission Moment *Second Mile Advent*

Circle of Concern | Emmaus Homes | Metro Trans Umbrella | Christmas Fund

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 *People, Look East* – French folk melody Besançon, words by Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), as in Oxford Book of Carols, 1964

People look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People look east and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
On more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People look east and sing today:
Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People look east and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

***Response** *Song of Hope* | #432 **Red Hymnal**



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, Fill - ing all our
lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
on our way, Bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
Refrain
Pray - ing, let us work for peace, Sing - ing, share our joy with all,
Work - ing for a world that's new, Faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Verse 2:

**Keep a prayer within your heart throughout the day
Hope is always there for those who trust the Lord
Give your time and comfort in a simple way
Call for justice, hope will surely be restored.**

**Giving, use our gifts with love, Helping, for the ones in need,
Striving, for equality. Justice, when the need demands.**

***Prayer of Dedication** Joanna Harader

**Holy One, this Advent season we wait in hope. And we give in hope.
Hope for what is to come with you; hope because of your presence
with us even now. Receive these generous offerings, and use them
for your work of healing and hope in our world. Amen.**

Scripture Luke 21:25-36 | Common English Bible—CEB

“There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. On the earth, there will be dismay among nations in their confusion over the roaring of the sea and surging waves. The planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken, causing people to faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world. Then they will see the Human One coming on a cloud with power and great splendor. Now when these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your redemption is near.”

Jesus told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that God’s kingdom is near. I assure you that this generation won’t pass away until everything has happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

“Take care that your hearts aren’t dulled by drinking parties, drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life. Don’t let that day fall upon you unexpectedly, like a trap. It will come upon everyone who lives on the face of the whole earth. Stay alert at all times, praying that you are strong enough to escape everything that is about to happen and to stand before the Human One.”

Moment of Silent Reflection

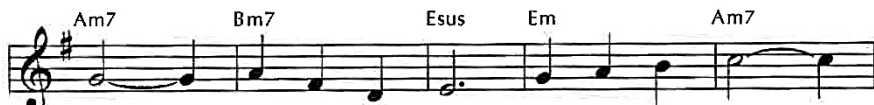
Sermon

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 *Christ Be Our Light* (refrain on next page)



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
 4 Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants




your ho - ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth-ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth-ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your k̄ing - dom come.

Refrain




Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

Refrain



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath-ered to - day.

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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving Michelle Torigian

For the nourishment of spirit, mind, and body, for hope that we begin to see, and for comfort from the Prince of Peace, we share our gratitude, Gracious God. Encourage us in these shortened days.

Through the long nights of this season, may your hope carry us until dawn arrives again. Amen.

***Song of Parting** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

hymn tune #9 **Red Hymnal**... words reworked by Maren Tirabassi

O Come, O come Emmanuel

**make true the stories prophets tell –
so all those chained by fear find release,
and, war forgotten, bring a world of peace.**

**Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
is come to birth where all God's children dwell.**

**O Come, Love's-season, to our lonely days,
and guide us in our words and ways
to be the ones whose Advent begins
with healing earth and all that live within. (refrain)**

**O come, Desire of Nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
Make envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (refrain)**

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *People, Look East* – arr. by Robert Lau, based on
the French folk melody Besançon, © 2016 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.

Our Communications Team is very active and is exploring all kinds of avenues. Please subscribe to our YouTube Channel today. We need a certain number of subscribers in order to utilize YouTube in the ways we believe will be most effective. <https://www.youtube.com/@ParkwayUCCStL>

There is a subscribe button under the main heading and brief description of our church. Thank you! Questions? Please

contact barbharris@charter.net or cynthianouri@gmail.com

Advent Sundays for Children of All Ages!

We are excited to offer Advent opportunities after worship throughout December.

December 1 *Craft and Cards*

December 8 *Soup Making*

December 15 *Christmas Caroling after Barry's Retirement Party*

(This is also the day when our children/teens will participate in worship.)

December 22 *Ornaments and Candy Canes*

December 29 *Cookie Party*

We will set up in the Gathering Space and have things to keep and things to share with others.

November 2024 Council Meeting Highlights

- The Search team for Organist/Choir Director has met, written a job description, and posted the job opening(s) on several sites.
- A small update to the Meditation Garden behind the church was approved.
- The Parkway UCC Abuse Prevention Policy has been updated and will be used for all employees.
- A team of 8-10 will be formed to write goals and objectives for the church to be worked on in the next 2-3 years, using information from the Town Hall and the previous strategies outlined from the UCC Vitality Project.

The Mess in the Messiah | 2024 UCC Advent Devotional

Sundays December 1-January 5 | 9:00am | Heritage Room

The Christmas message is messy!

Far from a pristine porcelain creche or an immaculate Hallmark story, the Christmas message of "God with us" is messy. The amniotic sac that bursts open, angels interrupt a good night's sleep, crusty shepherds and foreign stargazers intermingle, a family flees political persecution ... and there is God, in the flesh.

This Advent, sort through the mess to find the message! Join the Stillspeaking Writers' Group and contributors in the daily readings of *The Mess in the Messiah*. Each day includes a scripture reading, reflection and prayer,

beginning with the first Sunday of Advent (Dec 1) through the celebration of Epiphany (Jan 6).

The devotional is available for free in the Gathering Space.

We will meet in the Heritage Room on Sundays before worship to go over that Sunday's devotional. For more info, or if you would like a devotional sent to you, contact Gabriel R. at gabriel@parkwayucc.org

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am **"The History of Bellefontaine Cemetery, Digging a Little Deeper,"** **by Daniel Fuller, Cemetery Chronicler.**

December 1 | Heritage Room | 11:15am.

Bellefontaine Cemetery is a nonprofit, non-denominational cemetery and arboretum in St. Louis, Missouri. Founded in 1849 as a rural cemetery, Bellefontaine has over 87,000 graves that include many prominent American pioneers, businesspeople, politicians, and generals who are significant figures in the history of St. Louis and the United States. Its oldest graves are from 1816. Many of the wealthiest families at Bellefontaine have ornate mausoleums which overlook the Mississippi River and have Classical, Romanesque, Gothic, and Egyptian architectural styles. Our speaker Dan Fuller, the cemetery historian, is well equipped to guide us through the fascinating history of this unique St. Louis treasure.

For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at 90fivetpr@gmail.com.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue—December 3

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

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

Join the TAD group as we read and discuss our next book, *Late Migrations: A Natural History of Love and Loss* by Margaret Renkl. A *New York Times* contributing opinion writer, Renkl has written an unusual, captivating portrait of a family—and of the cycles of joy and grief that inscribe human lives within the natural world. This book feels peaceful, calm, and is beautifully illustrated by the author's brother.

In brief essays, Renkl traces a tender and honest portrait of her unforgettable parents and of the bittersweet moments that accompany a child's transition to caregiver. Braided into the overall narrative, she also offers observations on the world surrounding her suburban Nashville home. Ringing with rapture and heartache, these essays convey the dignity of bluebirds and rat snakes, monarch butterflies and native bees. As the two threads haunt and harmonize with each other, Renkl suggests that there is astonishment to be found in common things: in what seems ordinary, in what we all share.

On **December 3** we'll discuss pages 78-141. Join in at 1:45pm for fellowship, or 2pm for book discussion. We'd love to have you join us for one or all of the discussions.

We will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month & hope to see you on Zoom. Questions or comments? Please contact Jackie Eiffert jeiffert2@gmail.com

Christmas Blessings for Families in Need

PUCer Michelle Brueggemann works for a local school district and is looking for support for Project Hope, a program that provides holiday gifts as well as basic needs for some of the neediest families. Over the past several years there has been less and less support for the program, and school staff has been asked to provide this support. If you would like to help with supporting 2 families, you can do so by signing up for an item (or 2!) and bring to church (unwrapped) by Wednesday, December 4th. Scan QR to sign-up. Any questions, contact Michelle, michellebrue82@gmail.com



The Upper Room Small Group

Every Wednesday | 1-2pm | Gathering Space

Come as you are and take part in our Upper Room Small Group on December 4. 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 gabriel@parkwayucc.org

Adventurous Men Out Early

AMOE meets this Thursday, December 5 at 9:15am in the Heritage Room for coffee and fellowship. All are welcome. Questions, please talk to Richard Scherrer at 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Proud Art STL Upcoming Events

Proud Art STL provides art workshops and events to create safe spaces for LGBTQIA2S+ middle & high schoolers. Scan QR code to register for events!

Art Workshop Holiday cards with Sean Lowery

Fri, Dec 6 | 6-8pm | Shrewsbury City Center

In this workshop, they will be using print making, watercolors and a variety of other media to make holiday cards.



Spoken Word Poetry Workshop with Chris Holmes

Thurs, Dec 12 | 6-8pm | Richmond Heights

Spoken word poetry blends the art of crafting evocative imagery with powerful delivery to evoke emotions. Participants will analyze professional spoken word pieces, focus on word choice, and practice performance techniques that engage audiences with impactful metaphors, wordplay, and rhythms. This is your chance to transform your passions and ideas into original, dynamic expressions filled with emotion and flair. No prior poetry writing experience is required!

Seriously Safe What to do when there is a dangerous intruder

Sunday, Dec 8 | 11:15am-1:15pm | Heritage Room

Learn about and discuss recommended protocols in the event of a dangerous intruder that are already in use at schools, hospitals, and businesses near us. Cpl Pflueger's responsibility is to advise and train organizations in our community for such emergencies. This is a one hour presentation followed by discussion. Contact racerichardg@gmail.com for more info.

Go AWOL with us - Adventurous Women Out Late

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

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/>

*The RSVP date has passed but reach out to Carmen (cfbum@charter.net) in case there is a way we can secure more tickets.

Please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org if finances are hindering your participation in this event.

Prayer Corner: an opportunity to pray with someone

Monday, December 9 | 1-3pm | 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 upcoming opportunities: Monday, January 27 from 6-8pm

We can arrange a phone call or Zoom for another time if you'd like. Just reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

December 10 | 6-8pm | Heritage Room

[Zoom link](#) Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731 Passcode: 792617

Please join us for our Christmas book selection: *The Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg. With the same incomparable style and warm, inviting voice that have made her beloved by millions of readers far and wide, *New York Times* bestselling author Fannie Flagg has written an enchanting Christmas story of faith and hope for all ages that is sure to become a classic.

Potluck at 6pm followed by a book discussion at 7pm that evening.

Newcomers are always welcome! For questions, please contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net.

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Wednesday, December 11 | 10am | Panera on Manchester Road in Des Peres

Join us for a beverage and sweet treat. Come connect!

Future dates for Coffee and Conversation:

Tuesday, January 14 at 2pm. No need to RSVP - just show up!

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

Go to the Campbell House with the PUCC Adventurers

Thursday, December 19 | 10am-1:30pm | 1508 Locust Street, STL 63103

Join the PUCC Adventurers as we head to The Campbell House. The house will be beautifully decorated for Christmas. Please meet at church for carpooling at 9:30am, or meet at the Campbell House by 10am. Admission is \$8 per person, payable at the door. Lunch is at noon at Syberg's, 2211 Market Street, 63103.

Please RSVP by **December 12th** to:

Diane Tallyn at diane_tallyn@hotmail.com or

Kent Tallyn at bsee74-pucc@yahoo.com

Let us know if you're carpooling or meeting at the house. Park on 15th Street for accessible access. An elevator is available for the tour, but the main bedroom requires climbing 16 steps. The Robert G. Campbell House, City Landmark #6, was built in 1851 for J.H. Hall by architect William Fulton. This three-story red brick and stucco house blends Greek Revival and Victorian townhouse styles. After Campbell purchased the lot next door in 1856, he added a carriage house and summer house. The house remained in his family until the 1930s, when it became a museum. It was designated a City Landmark in 1971.

For more info, contact Jackie Eiffert at jeiffert2@gmail.com

Everlasting Light The Promise of Christmas

Sunday, Dec 15 | 3:00pm | 405 S Fifth Street, St. Charles 63301

Please join St. John UCC in their sanctuary where their Chancel Choir will be joined by an Orchestra for "Everlasting Light The Promise of Christmas" a Christmas Cantata. This free concert includes music, carols, and narration to explore the significance of the light of Christ, based on Isaiah and Luke.

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW PUCC APP TODAY!

Parkway UCC's App is a robust tool that helps us connect and communicate easily. One Church is a gamechanger that will help us to be more vital. Scan the QR code to see the instructions for downloading the app:



Our online member directory is a feature many of you have been waiting for! We take your privacy seriously. The directory is accessible only to PUCC members and staff who use their password to login.

We have also begun using our new front door keypad installed on the brick wall to the right of the doors by our Safety Team. Please select your own unique 4-digit code and send it to gabriel@parkwayucc.org so we can load it into the keypad and troubleshoot as needed. The keypad on the doorhandle is available for a bit longer.

We are happy to help you with anything and everything One Church – including taking your profile photo on a Sunday morning! Just ask!

Cindy Nouri cynthianouri@gmail.com

Barb Harris barbharris@charter.net

Gabriel Requadt gabriel@Parkwayucc.org

Hanukkah or Festival of Lights

Tuesday, December 17 | 7-8:15pm | 12166 Conway Rd, Saint Louis, MO 63141

Come to Temple Emanuel to celebrate and learn about the beautiful and historic Jewish Festival of Hanukkah. Commonly known today as the Festival of Lights, we hope that you will come to be illuminated and rejoice in their rich diversity.

Sponsored by Interfaith Partnership of Greater Saint Louis and Temple Emanuel. This event is free and open to the public.

Registration is required for this event. Please kindly RSVP to andrew@testl.org

OUR MUSIC MINISTRY -- SEARCH TEAM and SAVE THE DATE

Barry Luedloff is heading toward retirement at the end of December. Mark your calendar to join us in giving thanks for Barry at a reception in his honor after worship on Sunday, December 15.

Our Church Council has assembled a Search Team to find our next Organist/Pianist and/or Choir Director – this may be one person filling both roles or two individuals. We commissioned the Team during worship in early November: Keith Borgmann, Michelle Brueggemann, Elijah Gwyn, Jessica Gwyn, George Lestina, Helen Race, Marsha Peek, ex officio (Personnel Relations Committee) and Kevin Cameron, ex-officio (Pastor). Please pray for Barry, our Search Team and the individuals who will consider partnering with us at Parkway UCC.

Here are the job postings. Feel free to share them far and wide! We have reviewed first round of resumes and are in the process of setting up interviews.

Parkway United Church of Christ (parkwayucc.org), a faithful and progressive, warm and inclusive congregation at Ballas & I-64 seeks a **part-time organist/pianist** who is dynamic, flexible and eclectic. We are also seeking a part-time choir director. If you feel that we could be a good fit for you and your gifts, please send a cover letter and resume to **employment@parkwayucc.org**. Please indicate that you are applying for the organist/pianist position. This is a great opportunity!

Parkway United Church of Christ (parkwayucc.org), a faithful and progressive, warm and inclusive congregation at Ballas & I-64 seeks a part-time **choir director** who is personable, positive and thinks outside the box. We are also seeking a part-time organist/pianist for Sunday morning worship. If you feel that we could be a good fit for you and your gifts, please send a cover letter and resume to **employment@parkwayucc.org**. Please indicate that you are applying for the choir director position. This is a great opportunity!

**

As we prepare for this next chapter in our life together, we are asking for people to step up and step into our music program. We are compiling a list of people who would consider sharing their voice once each year with a solo/duet/trio/quartet, seasonally for Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter, monthly with our First Sunday Choir or two Sundays each month in our Sanctuary Choir. We are also gathering names of people who play instruments and would be willing to share their gift in worship (remember - it is an act of worship and community not a concert) and people who would consider being in a hand chime choir once or more. Let us know about your favorite hymns and songs. Lastly, we would like to hear your ideas about music at PUC. Reach out via **employment@parkwayucc.org**

Questions? Please contact anyone from our Search Team and/or our Chairperson, Jo Grove...

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 25 | 2-5pm | Fellowship Hall

Come join us for Christmas dinner! All are welcome!

Set up at 1pm, clean up after 5pm.

Registration (RSVP) is appreciated but not required

For more info, reach out to Gerry Rogers [**gcr123055@gmail.com**](mailto:gcr123055@gmail.com)

MORE A/V HELP NEEDED

We are looking for one or two people that can help on Sunday mornings with our A/V systems that make church possible to be seen and heard.

Commitments would be for only one or two Sunday mornings a month. The more people we have, the fewer Sundays each person would be needed. We will provide training. Candidates should have a basic understanding of computers but need not be technically savvy.

Those interested, please reach out to Kent Tallyn at:

[**bsee74-pucc@yahoo.com**](mailto:bsee74-pucc@yahoo.com)

Hope is the thing with feathers

Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all

And sweetest - in the gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little irbd
That kept so many warm

I've heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest sea -
Yet - never - in extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.

Prayer List

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

Celebrations

Gerre Langton - settling in at Friendship Village, Sunset Hills.

Families and friends gathering for Thanksgiving.

Happy Birthday Carol Cobb 11/29 (omitted on Sunday – apologies!)

Yakel Family - December 1 wedding of Lauren Yakel & Ryan Haynes.

Concerns

Families and friends gathering for Thanksgiving.

People who cannot come home and people with no place to go.

Steve & Paige Penico and Family - as he lives with ALS.

Ben and Marilyn McDougall - healing after his knee surgery.

Deb Carter and family - as they celebrate/grieve her father David.

Bill & Pat Owens - strengthening after recent hospitalizations.

John Ruiz's oldest brother - healing in Cape Girardeau.

Donna Magwitz - ongoing health concerns and pneumonia (Dwyer).

Harold Webb - upcoming brain surgery 12/09 (Burton and Grove).

Mary - tests (may need stents); caregiver for father in hospice (Tarr).

Billy - healing from motorcycle accident (Iris Cameron co-worker).

Phil and Amy and family - as his terminal illness progresses.

The tumultuous and consequential US election season.

The continuing war in Ukraine and Russia.

War and unrest in the Mideast - incl Israel, Hamas, Lebanon, Iran.

World Aids Day on 12/01 - lives lost, HIV persons, work to be done.

Continuing

Don Luedloff - rebounding from health concerns/issues (Barry's Dad).

Gladys Sims - healing at home after hospitalization and rehab.

Gloria Lash - pain, other problems related to Parkinson's (Litzinger).

John & Nancy Tallyn - his heart condition; her recurring leukemia, etc

Nylon and Gloria Wilson - in a season of transition (Litzinger).

Sharon and Chuck - a variety of health issues (Gerry Rogers' cousins).

Shara Storm - undergoing treatments for cancer (Stifel).

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]

Glady Sims - *Friendship Village - 15200 Village View Dr, #2418*; Chesterfield, MO 63017; 636-898-8873 [birthdate: July 4]

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

Other

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!

When Mountains Won't Move

Vicki Kemper

Jesus said to them... “For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.” - Matthew 17:20-21 (NRSV)

We had plenty of faith, boatloads of hope, deep wells of love, and landline-generated phone trees that make modern online systems look lame. And still, the cancer did not move. It retreated for a time—but then it returned, stronger than ever. Our dear friend died and, for some, their faith died with her.

Perhaps you, too, have encountered mountains that no amount of faith could move. Maybe you're weary from banging your head against what seems impossible.

Does that mean faith is worthless? Does it mean Jesus was clueless? Does it mean we're doing faith wrong?

It's easy to fall into that dangerous way of thinking. A longtime ordained minister still remembers the colleagues who told him his three-year-old daughter might have survived leukemia if only he had prayed harder.

But there is faith—and then there's magical thinking. There are mountains—which will, over many eons, become as moving molehills—and then there are glaciers, whose melting we observe with anxious hearts. There are miracles of all shapes, sizes, and timeframes—and then there's the way things work (or don't) most of the time.

We may hope against hope that things will work out. Faith is trusting that, even if they don't, God's love will carry us through somehow. Faith is realizing that, sometimes, the mountain that needs moving is us.

Prayer

When mountains won't move, give me faith enough to see how I can. When mountains won't move, give me courage enough to climb them.

Scan the QR code to sign up for UCC Daily Devotionals:

