



www.parkwayucc.org

February 09, 2025

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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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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.

Worship Serving

Scripture Reader is Jackie Eiffert.

Flowers given by Cindy Nouri in honor of her sister, Holly.

Treats after worship provided by Cindy Nouri.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these serving opportunities or join a group, please scan the QR code and click on the **Serving Opportunities Calendar**. Thanks!



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

2/09 Jennifer Degroote

2/09 Leah Sperry

2/11 Stephanie DeLong

2/14 Peggy Sieber

2/14 Donna Ruzicka

2/15 Ivey Bowman

Anniversaries

2/13 Brian & Daphane Sableman

5th Sunday *after* Epiphany

Sunday, February 09, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Thank you and welcome to Ruth Tweeten, our guest organist again today!

Prelude *Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now* | Paul Manz/J.S. Bach

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation It's a terrible thing, I think, in life to wait until you're ready. I have this feeling now that actually no one is ever ready to do anything. There is almost no such thing as ready. There is only now. ~Hugh Laurie

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 *You Are Welcome Here*

You are wel - come here, no mat-ter
who you are,
no mat - ter where you are, on life's
jour - ney. You are wel - come here,
no mat - ter who you are, come and
join with us, in our U -
ni - ted Church of Christ.

Scripture Luke 5:1-11 | New Revised Standard Version

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.”

Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing... Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.”

When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

***Call to Worship**

One:	Those fishermen showed up but weren’t so sure what was happening.
Many:	We come assured and/or we come with questions. We come for the spirited inquiry, knowing that we don’t/can’t have all the answers.
One:	Those fishermen were exhausted.
Many:	We come fresh and we come spent. We don’t have all the energy we will need, so we look to the Spirit to inspire and encourage us.
One:	Those fishermen were partners.
Many:	We are interdependent. It’s a myth that we can go it alone. We need one another – for sure.
One:	Those fishermen were amazed.
Many:	Paying attention means that we are in awe. Life is beautiful. Nature is fascinating. People are lovely.
One:	Those fishermen were willing to trust God, listen to Jesus and move forward with the Spirit.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* | #377 Red Hymnal



1. Lord, you have come to the lake - shore
2. You know so well my pos - ses - sions;



look - ing nei - ther for wealth - y nor wise ones;
my boat car - ries no gold and no weap - ons;



you on - ly asked me to fol - low hum - bly.
you will find there my nets and la - bor.



(Refrain)

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,



and while smil - ing have spo - ken my name;



now my boat's left on the shore - line be - hind me;



by your side I will seek oth - er seas.

3. You need my hands, full of caring
through my labors to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving. *Refrain*

4. You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me. *Refrain*

***Opening Prayer** David Long-Higgins

Loving God, gather us anew into your net of love. Interrupt whatever overwhelms us with the gift of your renewing grace. Plumb every depth and reveal Your holy abundance. Let it awaken us to what you make possible when we risk answering your invitation to begin again. Gift us with the courage to trust the command of Christ to put out into the deep, even when it doesn't seem to make sense. Answer our trust with Your promised presence, which reveals an ever-new rising. Bless us with the gift of You as we gather in the name of Jesus. 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 09 (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 09, parents please pick them up after worship. Children and youth from age 3 thru high school can be met in the Gathering Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship, as the teachers will bring them back upstairs after class.

Blessing the Children *Jesus Loves Me* | #304 **Red Hymnal**

**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...

Scripture Isaiah 6:1-8 | Common English Bible

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of his robe filling the temple. Winged creatures were stationed around him. Each had six wings: with two they veiled their faces, with two their feet, and with two they flew about. They shouted to each other, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of heavenly forces!
All the earth is filled with God's glory!"

The doorframe shook at the sound of their shouting, and the house was filled with smoke.

I said, "Mourn for me; I'm ruined! I'm a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I've seen the king, the Lord of heavenly forces!"

Then one of the winged creatures flew to me, holding a glowing coal taken from the altar with tongs. They touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips. Your guilt has departed, and your sin is removed." Then I heard the Lord's voice saying, "Whom should I send, and who will go for us?"

I said, "I'm here; send me."

Response *Here I Am, Lord* | #525 **Red Hymnal**



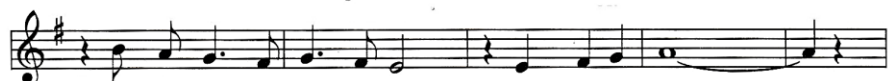
1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My peo- ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My peo-ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in deep-est sin My hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them, They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.



I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain
Unison*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard You call-ing in the night I will



go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your



peo - ple in my heart.

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *You Are Mine* | #2218 *Blue Songbook*



1. — I will come to you in the si - lence, —
2. — I am hope for all who are hope-less, —
3. — I am strength for all the de - spair-ing, —
4. I am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from — all your fear. —
I am eyes for all who long to see. In the
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame. —
am the peace the world can - not give. —



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, be
shad-ows of the night, I will be your light,
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain, stand



still and know I am here. —
come and rest in
all will know my
up, now walk, and



me. —
name. — Do not be a - fraid, I am
live! —



with you. I have called you each by name.



Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine. —

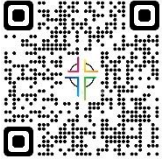
Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

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.]

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 *O Master, Let Me Walk With You* | Gilbert Martin

***Response** *Old Hundredth* | #591 **Red Hymnal**

**Praise God the Source of life and birth.
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.
All glory, honor to God's name! Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication** David Long-Higgins

God of the bursting nets, we thank you for your abundant blessings rising up at every turn. Multiply these gifts and our faith that your good news of life-giving love may stretch wider still. Yes, form us deep in Your heart for this good and gracious work. Amen.

*Song of Parting *Will You Come and Follow Me?* | #2130 *Blue Songbook*



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



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

Announcements

*Music for Going Forth *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* | J.S. Bach

Annual Congregational Meeting: Budget

Please plan to stay in the sanctuary for our annual meeting.

The Church Council and Stewardship Commission will lead our meeting.

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

Annual Congregational Meeting: Budget

Please plan to stay in the sanctuary immediately following worship next **Sunday, February 9** as we have our annual meeting focused on our 2025 Budget. The Church Council and Stewardship Commission will lead our meeting.

Questions? Reach out Lana Biondo, our Church Council President, ljbiondo@yahoo.com or Linda Tossing, the convener of our Stewardship Commission, ltossing@att.net

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

February 11 | 6-8pm | Heritage Room

Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731; Passcode: 792617

Please join us for our book discussion of *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni. This is a novel about the life of Sam Hill, a boy born with ocular albinism, and tracks his journey from childhood to adulthood as he navigates the challenges of being different in a world that often values conformity. He is picked on, teased and attacked but how he, his parents and his friends deal with it are what makes this story soar. His parents' unrelenting faith in God and impenetrable dedication to each other is sometimes smothering, often fanatical yet always loving.

This book covers so much: marriage, faith, race, revenge, abuse, romance, puberty, motherhood, Christianity, bullying, feminism, alcoholism and rectitude.

We will break down this book into 3 to 4 sessions.

Potluck at 6pm followed by a book discussion at 7pm that evening with a Zoom option for those unable to make it person. Newcomers are always welcome! For questions, please contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net.

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 **February 12**. We'll be following The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide once a week on Wednesday afternoons. Pretty casual with some guided questions to help stir the spirit. Copies of the devotional are available for free in the Gathering Space. We would love to have you!

For more info, contact Gabriel gabriel@parkwayucc.org

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Wednesday, February 12 | 2pm | Panera on Manchester Road in Des Peres

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

No need to RSVP - just show up!

Other dates: **Monday, March 24** at 7pm; **Friday, April 25** at 10am;

Tuesday, May 20 at 2pm

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

Adventurous Women Out Late 2025

Come build relationships with other PUCers in 2025.

Hey ladies! Put these on your calendar! And we can add more! Just send me what you'd like to do! I am hoping to add a walking tour with the History Museum when they add weekend dates to their calendar

Wednesday, February 12: SHUCKED! At the Fox Theater 7:30pm \$63 est.

- Carpool from church at 5:45pm

RSVP date has passed but you can reach out to cfbum@charter.net

Sunday, March 2: ART IN BLOOM @ St. Louis Art Museum

- Carpool from church at 12pm. RSVP to cfbum@charter.net

Saturday, April 12: Come volunteer at the Church community Easter Egg Hunt, then come out for LUNCH at Casas de Très Reyes in Des Peres

Saturday, May 24: PJs and a Rom-Com in the Heritage Room 6pm.

Bring a snack to share! Movie TBA

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am My Experiences as a CASA Volunteer, by PUCer Helen Race.

February 16 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

There are over 12,000 children in foster care in Missouri, with more than 5,000 in the St. Louis area. Being separated from family is deeply traumatic for children. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) volunteers provide consistent, supportive adult presence for children in foster care. They work with case workers and the Court to ensure the child's needs are met. While case workers and placements may change, the child's CASA remains a steady, reliable figure. Helen Race, a Parkway member, has been a CASA for over 5 years and finds the experience both meaningful and impactful. Learn more about the CASA program and how it helps children through some of their toughest times. It's a rewarding role for anyone wanting to make a difference, one child at a time.

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

PUC Adventurers Are Going to the Basilica

Thursday, February 20 | 10am-1:30pm | 4431 Lindell Blvd., 63108

You are invited to join with the PUC Adventurers for a one-hour guided tour of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. Lunch will follow at a place TBD. The tour starts at 10am, and if you'd like to carpool, please meet at Parkway UCC by 9:30am. The Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, nicknamed the "Rome of the West," is a gorgeous one-of-a-kind work of art. With its lofty vaults and radiant mosaics, the sheer scale of beauty is a thing of awe. More than a dozen

architects' and artisans' concepts and works have coalesced in a magnificently well-integrated and harmonious whole. The main structure of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis was completed in 1914. Like the stained glass in the sanctuary at Parkway UCC, the Frei family designed and fabricated the stained-glass windows on the balcony level at the Cathedral Basilica. It truly is a sight to see. <https://cathedralstl.org/>

Please let Carol Cobb know by **February 17** if you will be attending, and if you would like to carpool. ccjacob@aol.com

Align with PUCC! New Member Sunday

Sunday, February 23 | 10am | New Sanctuary

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 at Parkway UCC - in person or virtually. Membership at Parkway UCC could be the next step in your ongoing relationship with God and with other people of faith - though membership is not expected and certainly isn't necessary to be involved in worship, baptism, communion, weddings, funerals or other aspects of church life. As a church member, you have the opportunity to more intentionally grow personally, find a sense of belonging, form lifelong friendships, experience the joy of Christ, discover your spiritual gifts, become more intimate with God, develop your personal prayer style, expand your boundaries, become more Christ-like and more. With our congregational democratic polity, as a church member, you have a voice and vote within our church to weigh in on topics such as the annual budget, church vision, building decisions and more. If this is something you might be interested in, please let us know by emailing kevin@parkwayucc.org

SAVE THE DATE: West County Interfaith Alliance Event

Sunday, February 23 | 2-3:30pm | St. Timothy's Episcopal Church 63141

Love Your Neighbor is the theme! We will have mixers, engage in a community service project and enjoy one another over refreshments.

*We will begin collecting items for the event next Sunday: protein bars, instant coffee packets, water bottles, hand sanitizer, baby wipes, dried fruit, Band-Aids, ChapStick, toothbrush/toothpaste.

More info from kevin@parkwayucc.org

Gospel Roots: A Black History Month Celebration

Sunday, February 23 | 3pm | 11221 Larimore Rd, Spanish Lake, MO 63138

Reserve Your Seats Now for Gospel Roots Black History Month Celebration! "Gospel Roots" is a powerful Black History Month concert that celebrates the rich cultural heritage, history, and resilience of the Black community through music and song. The concert features uplifting gospel performances by the 60-voice Community Gospel Choir, showcasing both traditional and contemporary gospel music that honors the struggles and

triumphs of African Americans throughout history.

"Gospel Roots" not only commemorates Black history, but also celebrates the enduring power of music as a tool for bringing our community together.



This concert at Friendly Temple Church is **free**, but they ask that you **reserve your general admission seats and donate what you can** per seat by scanning the QR code.

Prayer Corner: an opportunity to pray with someone

Tuesday, February 25 | 7-9am | 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.

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

Other dates: **Monday, March 10** from 2-4pm; **Wednesday, April 16** from 10am-12pm; **Monday, May 12** from 6-8pm

2025 Ramadan Family Iftar Dinners be a guest of a Muslim family to experience a fast-breaking together

As the Holy Month of Ramadan approaches, the Turkish American Society of Missouri (TASOM) warmly invites you to participate in a Home-Based Family Iftar Dinner with a local Muslim host family.

What is Ramadan?

Ramadan, starting this year on **February 28**, is a sacred month for Muslims dedicated to fasting, charity, prayer, and unity. Muslims fast daily from dawn to sunset, and the evening meal, known as "iftar," is a time of joy, reflection, and togetherness. It is also an opportunity to foster interfaith and intercultural understanding.

What is this program about?

This program brings together individuals and families from diverse backgrounds to share an iftar meal with a local Muslim family in the Greater St Louis Area. Whether you're fasting or not, you are welcome to join and experience this special tradition firsthand.

How to Participate:

Please RSVP by scanning the QR code by **February 14**. After matching you with a host family, we'll share details about your host's address, contact information, and background.



This event is free of charge and open to everyone, regardless of faith.

Join TASOM for an evening of delightful food, meaningful conversation, and new friendships. They look forward to connecting you with a welcoming family in your community!

St. Louis Trivia Night for 100 Neediest Cases

Friday, February 28 | 6-10pm | 12545 Fee Fee Rd St. Louis, MO 63146

Enjoy a night of St. Louis Trivia with fellow PUCCers. Tables seat 8 people and folks bring their own snacks to share. Test your knowledge at the 8th Annual St. Louis Post-Dispatch Trivia Night supported by the Soldiers Memorial Military Museum! Post-Dispatch columnist and trivia aficionado Joe Holleman will emcee the night featuring 10 rounds of 8 questions each from St. Louis history to music and everything in between. Attendees can participate in the silent auction, raffles and games which will benefit 100 Neediest Cases. A cash prize will be awarded to the top team and all teams can enjoy snacks and goodies from local St. Louis businesses.

Discounted tickets are \$25. Please pay via One Church. If paying by check, send it with a memo indicating the event it is for, to Parkway UCC at 2841 N Ballas Rd, Town and Country, MO 63131. To pay at church, use the offering plate or the metal box on the wall to the right of the main office door.

8 PUCCers are needed for our table. To register, contact Dan Connors connorsd@aol.com If the cost would keep you from participating, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org

February 2025 Alzheimer's News

Blood Test Research Findings Presented at the 2024 Alzheimer's Association International Conference showed that a blood test, when combined with a thorough clinical evaluation by primary care doctors or specialists, can help to more accurately diagnose Alzheimer's Disease. Specialists and primary care doctors were both around 90% accurate in identifying Alzheimer's Disease using the blood test. Previously, specialists not using blood tests were only 73% accurate, while primary care doctors were only 63% accurate. If clinical studies continue to demonstrate the accuracy and value of blood tests in both research and clinical settings, blood tests could reduce the need for expensive and painful lumbar punctures and PET Scans used to diagnose Alzheimer's in the early stages.

You can learn more by going to www.alz.org/help-support/resources or the Alzheimer's Helpline which is accessible 24/7 via 800-272-3900 and staffed by master's level clinicians to assist with crisis situations, decision making, and disease information. Tools and support are also available in Spanish. Want to learn more about the Alzheimer's Association and what they do here in St. Louis? Visit alz.org and/or contact PUCC's Faith Outreach Ambassador with the Alzheimer's Association, Joyce Ruiz at joyceruiz7@gmail.com

Gateway ONA Convocation Resistance and Persistence: Hope Reigns

Saturday, March 1 | 9am-3pm | Parkway UCC

Parkway UCC is once again hosting the annual Gateway ONA Convocation. This year it will be held on Saturday, March 1, from 9am-3pm. That's less than a month away! This event is for church members who are at the very beginning of their Open and Affirming Conversation and for those who have been Open and Affirming for many years. All are welcome. Bring a canned good to share with residents of Doorways Housing.

As part of our extravagant welcome, we are asking for volunteers for this event for setup, takedown, and all times in-between. Please consider volunteering to help us host this event. You can volunteer for the entire day, morning, or afternoon. Please contact Jackie Eiffert to volunteer, jeiffert2@gmail.com.



Scan QR code to register! The deadline is **February 26**. Tickets are \$25. For more info about the event, contact Greg Schmelig greg_schmelig@hotmail.com

Support St. Louis UCC's Affordable Housing Ministry

A UCC-sponsored online auction to benefit Habitat for Humanity St. Louis is set for March 2025. An AUCction for Humanity will run from **March 1 to March 16**. In addition, Samuel UCC's traditional St. Patrick's Dinner will be held on **Saturday, March 15**. Mark your calendar!

You can support an AUCction for Humanity by suggesting volunteers who could: Ask businesses and friends for items; help with administrative tasks you can do from home.

Call or text Bob Steen with suggestions of people who might help at 314-980-7699 or email Bob at AUCction4Humanity@outlook.com

OUR NEW ORGANIST/PIANIST AMY FREEMAN STARTS 02/16

Our Church Council has approved the recommendation of the Music Search Team to hire **Amy Freeman** as our new organist/pianist. We are very pleased and excited! The team reviewed cover letters and resumes of applicants. They invited some candidates to answer three questions about our particular PUCC mission and ministry. The team arranged two face to face interviews: a traditional interview around a table with team members asking all kinds of questions and engaging in thoughtful conversation - the second in the sanctuary as a music skills experience and then back to the table to have more sharing of experiences, ideas and dreams. References were contacted and a thorough background check was done through PUCC's insurance company. We put a pause on the search for a choir director at this time as we re-evaluate our Sunday morning music.

Amy is our search team's choice from both a musical and personality standpoint. She is an intelligent and talented artist. Her credentials reflect her commitment to higher education to improve her musical skills. With a bachelor's degree from Baylor University and a master's degree from the University of Dallas, Amy demonstrates a focus on continuous improvement in musical adaptability and performance enhancement.

One of her references states that she is a kind, lovely, and dedicated person and puts great care into any task she undertakes.

Amy is also a cellist and teaches private piano lessons... she plays the ukelele too!

Amy shared with us that "music, which is one of my life's greatest joys, helps me maintain my sanity amidst life's difficulties."

As we begin this next chapter, we're seeking people to join our music program. We're looking for individuals willing to sing a solo, duet, trio, or to sing seasonally (Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter) and/or to sing with a group monthly with the First Sunday Choir at 9am. We're also gathering names of instrumentalists who'd share their talents in worship, and those interested in joining a hand chime choir. Please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org today.

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW PUCG 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 PUCG 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.

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

One Church Wonder Events

Join us with your phone, tablet or laptop as our 1C Team offers support, shortcuts and strategies to make your experience with our software and app more fruitful and enjoyable. All levels of experience with One Church welcome. Upcoming dates after Worship at 11:15am: **February 23; March 23; April 27; May 18; June 22; July 20; August 17.**

Questions? Contact: Cindy - cynthianouri@gmail.com;

Barb - barbharris@charter.net or Gabriel - gabriel@Parkwayucc.org

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIANS ARE CHRISTIANS WHO:

1. Believe that following the way and teachings of Jesus can lead to experiencing sacredness, wholeness, and unity of all life, even as we recognize that the Spirit moves in beneficial ways in many faith traditions.
2. Seek community that is inclusive of all people, honoring differences in theological perspective, age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, class, or ability.
3. Strive for peace and justice among all people, knowing that behaving with compassion and selfless love towards one another is the fullest expression of what we believe.
4. Embrace the insights of contemporary science and strive to protect the Earth and ensure its integrity and sustainability.
5. Commit to a path of life-long learning, believing there is more value in questioning than in absolutes.

Check out progressivechristianity.org

Prayer List

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Celebrations

Samantha Elaine Jones - baptized here on January 23... mom Dawn, brothers Daniel, Mikey and Nate.

Kristin & Brandon Edwards, bro Charlie - baby coming this month.

Concerns

Cassie & Christa Rosenberger - grieving/celebrating their mother.

Family/Friends of Pat Klein - mourning and sharing gratitude... we'll host a Celebration of Life on Saturday, March 8 at 11am here at PUC.

<https://stlouiscremation.com/obituaries/patricia-klein/>

Marv Herpel - strengthening/healing of broken leg; back at *Brookdale*.

Kathleen Tarr - healing after foot surgery on January 31.

Twila Spencer - transitioning to assisted living (Mike Rogers' mother).

Harold Webb - lingering complications after brain surgery (Grove).

Haack's general practitioner and his wife - healing happening.

Our trans siblings as they deal with harmful state/federal policy plans.

The people of Los Angeles - coping with devastation/death from fires

The continuing war in Ukraine and Russia.

The passengers and soldiers that perished in jet-helicopter crash.

Continuing

Keith Borgmann - healing at home after recent hospitalization.

Randy & Karla Beck - his healing after surgery; rehab ctr near home.

Steve and Paige Penico Family - as they navigate his ALS.

Phil and Amy and daughter B - as his terminal illness progresses.

Barry Luedloff - healing after open-heart surgery and pacemaker.

Rick - receiving chemotherapy (father of Laura Waite).

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

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

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

Mary - grieving/giving thanks for her father; health concerns (Tarr).

Kari Borgmann - her mom turns 101 in 2025; health issues.

Renee Pellegrino & 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).

Segeer Ruiz - paralyzed from car accident (John and Joyce Ruiz).

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

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 #25; 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]

Mildred Hoxie - *Sunrise at Bluemont Park*, 5900 Wilson Blvd. #253, Arlington, VA 22205; [birthdate: January 15]

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]

Judy Waddell - 13510 Weston Park Dr; STL, MO 63131; 314-369-4885 [birthdate: August 13]

Other

Pres Trump, VP Vance, 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 you'll be added to call list. Thx!