



www.parkwayucc.org

February 23, 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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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.

Worship Serving

Scripture Reader is Bill Haack.

Flowers given by James & Ashley Milam in loving memory of Larry Milam, on what would have been his 80th birthday.

Treats after worship provided by the freezer.

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://warmlines.org/warmdir.html>

Birthdays

2/24 Henry Weas

2/24 Mia Schultenburg

2/25 Laura Schowalter

2/25 Wyatt Tallyn

2/25 Karla Beck

2/27 Cindy Nouri

2/27 Paul Roesler

2/28 Ralph Hoffman

2/28 Alek Waddell

3/1 Bill Haack

3/1 Angela Chostner

7th Sunday *after* Epiphany

Sunday, February 23, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Prelude *Morning Mood* | Edvard Grieg

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation If you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else. ~Toni Morrison

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 *Now Thank We All Our God* | #555, v1-2 Red Hymnal



1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voic - es,
2. O may this boun - teous God Through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God, Who reigns in high - est heav - en,



Who won - drous things hath done, In whom this world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us;
To Fa - ther and to Son And Spir - it now be giv - en.



Who, from our moth - ers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
And keep us in God's grace, And guide us when per - plexed,
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom heaven and earth a - dore,



With count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
The God who was, and is, And shall be ev - er - more.

Scripture Luke 6:27-38 | Common English Bible (CEB)

Jesus said, “But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don’t withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don’t demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

“If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. If you do, you will have a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for God is kind to ungrateful and wicked people. Be compassionate just as God is compassionate.

“Don’t judge, and you won’t be judged. Don’t condemn, and you won’t be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.”

***Call to Worship** David Long-Higgins

One:	Come to experience the Love that will not let us go; the Love that helps us turn things around.
Many:	Love turns us from revenge to creative good.
One:	Love turns us from clenched fists to open hands.
Many:	Love turns us from scarcity to generosity.
One:	Love turns us from retribution to mercy.
Many:	Love turns us from judgment to forgiveness.
One:	Love turns us from fear to gladness.
Many:	Yes, love turns us, take our measured lives, and multiply in us the immeasurable joy You have revealed through Jesus Christ.
One:	Send your Holy Spirit to turn, return and reorient us toward one another.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** *Great is Your Faithfulness* | #276 **Red Hymnal**



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.

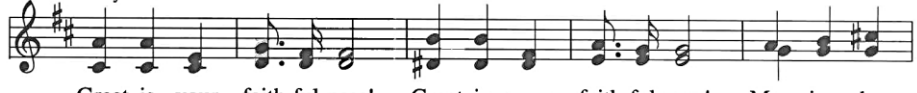


You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



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** David Long-Higgins

Holy Love, bear in us a new beginning. Soften our hearts and still our minds into Your gracious embrace. Hold the worries and wanderings of our lives. Gift us with the renewing energy of Your Holy Spirit. Let it meet our fatigue and form in us a deepened commitment to your vision of the beloved community. Yes, mold us with Christ-love into agents of Your blessing, for the good of the world. May the cup of our lives run over with your presence. In Your many names, we pray. 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 01, parents please pick them up after worship. Children and youth from age 3 thru high school can be met in the Gathering Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship, as the teachers will bring them back upstairs after class.

Blessing the Children *Weave*

The musical score is written in G major, 8/8 time, and consists of four staves. The lyrics are: "Weave, weave, weave us to - geth - er, Weave us to - geth - er in u - ni - ty and love. Weave, weave, weave us to - geth - er, Weave us to - geth - er, to - geth - er in love." The chords are: C, Em, Dm, C, Dm, C, G, C, Em, Dm, C, Dm, C, G, C, C. The piece ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine".

New Member Liturgy

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

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

Questions of the Candidates

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Question About Participation

Welcome and Reception

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

Greeting of Christian Love

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

Prayer

Response *Blest be the Tie that Binds* | #438, v1 and 3 **Red Hymnal**



1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2. Be - fore our Ma - ker's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
3. We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4. From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com-forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz-ing tear.
And per - fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Scripture Genesis 45:3-11, 15 | New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)
 Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.'"

And Joseph kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Sung Call to Prayer *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* | #408 Red Hymnal



1. Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, Where sound the
2. In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, On shad - owed
3. From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, From hu - man
4. The cup of wa - ter given for Thee Still holds the



- cries of race and clan, A - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds fraught with fears, From paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, From fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of Thy grace; Yet long these mul - ti -



- self - ish strife, We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, We catch the vi - sion of Thy tears.
 sor - row's stress, Thy heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to see The sweet com - pas - sion of Thy face.

5. O Master, from the mountainside,
 Make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 Among these restless throngs abide,
 O tread the city's streets again;
6. Till all the world shall learn Thy love,
 And follow where Thy feet have trod;
 Till glorious from Thy heaven above
 Shall come the city of our God.

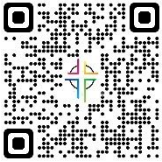
Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

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 *Amazing Grace* | Skyler Dario

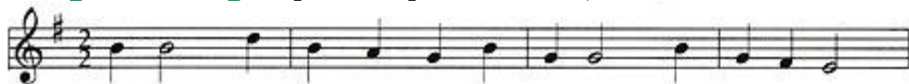
***Response** *Old Hundredth* | words by Mary Luti

**For all who seek to live and grow,
to search and find, to ask and know;
unfolding journey, never done:
we sing your glory, Holy One!**

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

Generous God, thank you for pressing Your holy love into the lap of our lives. Bless these gifts we bring - that they may be multiplied into a good larger than we can imagine. Also, bless us, that we might live our lives in gratitude, sharing freely without expectation of return. Through this way of Jesus, stretch our hearts, minds, and lives into channels of Your Holy grace. Amen.

***Song of Parting** *Help Us Accept Each Other* | #358 Red Hymnal



1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept-ed us;
2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life
3. Let Your ac - cep - tance change us, So that we may be moved
4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters With all who are in need.



Teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, Each per - son to em - brace.
We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.
In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do the truth in love;
Who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, For righ - teous - ness and bread.



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,
To prac - tice Your ac - cep - tance Un - til we know by heart
We need new eyes for see - ing, New hands for hold - ing on:



We are our - selves ac - cept - ed And meant to love and live.
To love them as we find them Or as they may be - come.
The ta - ble of for - give - ness And laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
Re - new us with Your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Sonata K64* | Domenico Scarlatti (Transposed)

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. Our YouTube Channel is **@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**

2025 Lent Devotional Pick Up Your Copy Now!

Mirroring the 2025 General Synod theme, "Into the Deep," our 2025 Lent Devotional invites reflection on God's mysterious depths.

Copies will be available in the Gathering Space for free.

If you need a copy mailed to you, or for more info, contact Gabriel **gabriel@parkwayucc.org**.

Love Your Neighbor: 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.

The project, BLESSING BAGS, will contain protein bars, instant coffee packets, water bottles, hand sanitizer, baby wipes, dried fruit, Band-Aids, ChapStick, toothbrush/toothpaste and socks. PUC is contributing 100 pairs of adult socks. Please place socks in the marked box in the Gathering Space by **February 23**. Now more than ever, we need community engagement and genuine relationship with our neighbors. 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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

February 25 | 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**.

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 PUCers. 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.

8 PUCers are needed for our table.

Questions? Contact Dan Connors **connorsd@aol.com**

Discounted tickets are \$25. Please register and pay in One Church by scanning QR code.



If you would like assistance with registering, please contact **Gabriel@parkwayucc.org** or call 314-872-9330. If the cost would keep you from participating, please reach out to **kevin@parkwayucc.org**

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 Affirm 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

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am "The Immigration Crisis in 19th Century Missouri," by Historian Luke Ritter

March 2 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Who counts as an American? It was a question that plagued nineteenth-century politics, as German and Irish immigrants arrived in unprecedented numbers. On an election day in 1854, St. Louis witnessed one of the nation's largest anti-immigrant riots. Rioters sabotaged an election and murdered at least ten people. Sound familiar? Does history repeat itself? At least as to immigration fearmongering and the like, that appears to be the case.

Historian Dr. Luke Ritter, a faculty member at the St. Louis Community College, joins us to explain how American-immigrant tensions in Missouri manifested deeply felt anxieties about American identity and democracy amid rapid demographic change. He identifies patterns of behavior that have persisted across time and analyzes U.S. immigration policies, both past and present.

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

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

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

Eco Steward Planning Meeting

Tuesday, March 4 | 11:30am | Heritage Room

The Eco Steward Committee will be meeting to discuss possible/potential plans, including Earth Day ideas, environmental concerns, programs or events to consider, etc.

Come join us as we work towards becoming better Environmental Stewards, raising awareness, and discussing environmental issues and concerns within PUC as well as the wider community, that we may want to address this year. For more info, contact Polly Rutherford pollyrutherford@gmail.com

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – March 4

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

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

Please join us for our book discussion of *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger. It's the story of an 11-year-old boy, Reuben Land, his unusual family, and their journey across the frozen Badlands of the Dakotas in search of Reuben's fugitive older brother. Themes in the novel include faith, miracles, and family. We'll discuss this book on March 4, and March 18. Join in on Zoom at 1:45 pm for fellowship, or 2pm-3pm for book discussion. Newcomers are welcome! Please contact Jackie Eiffert, jeiffert2@gmail.com with questions.

Intertwine Iftar Dinner 2025

Tuesday March 4, 2025 | Congregation Shaare Emeth; 11645 Ladue Road

5:45-6:00pm Check-In

6:00pm Brief Welcome, Break the Fast & Prayer

6:25pm Dinner and Program



RSVP by **March 2** by scanning the QR code.

As the Holy season for the Abrahamic Traditions approaches, Congregation Shaare Emeth, Parkway United Church of Christ, and Turkish American Society of Missouri (TASOM) would like to invite you to attend our Intertwine Interfaith Iftar Dinner where our members will share a meal together while we all honor Lent/Easter, Passover, and Ramadan in this holy season. We are grateful and appreciative of our TASOM friends who will be cooking and bringing dinner for us to share together.

Suggested contribution for members of Congregation Shaare Emeth and Parkway United Church of Christ is as follows:

\$10.00 for Adults

\$5.00 for children 5-12

Under 5 is free

Brought to you by your Intertwine Friends:

Kevin Cameron, Lisa Mason, Paige Penico, Ali Durhan, Ekrem Bel and Debbie Bram

Salam, Peace and Shalom

Ash Wednesday Worship

March 5 | 7pm | Sanctuary

Join us for Ash Wednesday Worship as we begin our journey to Holy Week and Easter.

We will hear from the prophet Joel, center ourselves with Psalm 51 and receive the guidance of Jesus from Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.

We will light our Lenten candles and receive the ashes that come from last year's palms of Palm Sunday.

As we travel this journey alone and together, we will pause in many different places as the gospels invite us to pay attention to where we have been, where we are today and where we headed.

Annual St. Patrick's Dinner to Benefit Habitat for Humanity

Saturday, March 8 | 4-7pm | Samuel UCC 320 N. Forsyth Blvd., Clayton MO

Suggested \$20 donation, children \$6. EVERY CENT you give goes to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis. All meat and other food are either a gift from the Kern Meat Company or others. Corned beef and cabbage, Irish mashed potatoes, soda bread and a homemade dessert buffet like no other. Call the church office for tickets or buy on Sunday mornings. For more info, please contact Tom McKenzie at mckenzie1947@att.net

Time to Register for AUCction for Humanity 2025

Join us for An AUCction for Humanity, an online fundraiser benefiting Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis, supported by the United Church of Christ. The auction runs until **March 9**.

Register as a Bidder: Go to <https://new.biddingowl.com/AUCction> to register. After registering with your email and password, confirm your registration through the email BiddingOwl sends. (Payment info required only for winning bids.)

Spread the Word! Forward this announcement to friends and family, follow AUCction on Facebook and share posts, encourage others to check out the auction and bid generously—this is a fundraiser, not a sale.

If you'd prefer, you can donate directly to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis at 830 South Grand Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63118 or email habitat@habitatstl.org. For more details, contact Tom McKenzie at mckenzie1947@att.net.

Annual Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown sponsored by PUCC Youth

Sunday, March 16 | 11:15am | Fellowship Hall

LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE!!!!

It's time for our annual Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown!

The event will be held on **Sunday, March 16**, St. Patrick's Day weekend, following the worship service.

So, wear your green, bring your best chili and/or brownies, and with a wee bit o' luck, you will be the 2025 champion and receive the coveted trophy (ribbon for the brownies) and braggin' rights for the next year!

This is a fundraiser for the youth to raise money for their annual mission projects; so come out, support our youth, and enjoy some fun, fellowship and good-natured competition! Thanks for your support! We'll have sign-up sheets out soon!

For more info, reach out to Amy Yakel da_yakel@att.net

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Monday, March 24 | 7pm | 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: **Friday, April 25** at 10am; **Tuesday, May 20** at 2pm

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

OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

As we begin this next chapter with Amy Freeman as your organist/pianist, we're seeking people to be a part of our music program. We're looking for individuals willing to sing a solo, duet, trio or to sing with a group seasonally (Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter) and/or to sing with the First Sunday Choir each first Sunday of the month 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 amy@parkwayucc.org today.

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.

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

Most Sundays there is someone well-versed in One Church standing over by the large bulletin board in the Gathering Space. Please let them know if you have any questions or need assistance.

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

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

Prayer List

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Celebrations

New Members this Sunday: Jessica and David Gwyn (*Elijah, Thad, Matthias*); **Lynn Marks and Jan McAllister.**

Avery Elizabeth born to Kristin/Brandon Edwards and Charlie on 2/14

Celebrating the wedding of Emily and Kevin Ferri (Levin).

Concerns

Peggy/Jack Sieber & family as they grieve grandson Ryan Bruce Sieber

<https://www.luptonchapel.com/obituary/ryan-sieber>

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

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

Lana and Joe Biondo - preparing for her knee replacement on 02/25.

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

The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.

Continuing

Cassie & Christa Rosenberger - grieving/celebrating their mother.

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

Kathleen Tarr - healing after recent foot surgery.

Keith Borgmann - healing at home after recent hospitalization.

Randy & Karla Beck - his healing and strengthening after surgery.

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).

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

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

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).

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

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).

Seger 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!

LAST WEEK In Sunday School

John the Baptist sends his disciples to Jesus asking the question on everyone's mind: are you the Messiah? Jesus points to his miracles and then tells the crowd that John was a prophet (Luke 7:18-35).

TODAY In Sunday School

While Jesus was visiting a Pharisee, a woman who was called "sinful" by others wept at Jesus' feet and anointed them with expensive oil. Jesus gave her mercy and forgiveness. (Luke 7:36-50).

THE POINT

We can show Jesus our loving gratitude for God's forgiveness.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Forgiveness is necessary for a relationship to be all that it can be. Sin—that which disrupts a relationship—gets in the way of our relationship with God. God forgives us, and that relationship is restored. In the Hebrew Bible, forgiveness means to remove or wipe away sin. In the New Testament, forgiveness is connected to salvation. We sin, we repent, and God forgives. Just as forgiveness keeps open communication between God and us and heals that relationship, forgiveness also restores relationships within our community.

STORY SUMMARY

While Jesus was eating at the house of Simon, a Pharisee, a woman known to others as "sinful" entered. She began to weep over Jesus' feet, wetting them with her tears and drying them with her hair. Then she began to anoint Jesus' feet with expensive oil she had brought. But Simon was offended. He thought that Jesus should not associate with such sinners! Jesus challenged Simon with a question: Between two people who owed debts, one great and one small, which would be more appreciative of their debt being forgiven? The one who owed more, of course. Jesus makes it clear that he offers forgiveness to those who ask for it.

PRACTICE: Prayer

Since prayer at its heart is simply communicating with God, any time we express our thanks and praise to God is prayer! Words, poems, song, art—these are all ways we can express gratitude to God through prayer. This week, choose a new way to express your gratitude to God.

NEXT WEEK In Sunday School

Jesus takes three disciples up a mountain, where he becomes dazzlingly white, and Moses and Elijah appear next to him. God declares that Jesus is God's Son, and the disciples should listen to him (Luke 9:28-45).