





www.parkwayucc.org

March 2, 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 Deb Carter.

Flowers given by Karen Nolte in memory of her mother, Eleanor Larson.

Treats after worship provided by Amy & Doug Yakel.

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

3/3 Melissa Pounds

3/3 Carol Clifford

3/4 Deb Carter

3/5 Julie Harms

3/7 Douglas Sperry

3/8 Bill Klein

3/8 Jeff Downing

Anniversaries

3/3 Doug & Amy Yakel

3/6 Janie & Anil Pillai

Transfiguration Sunday

Sunday, March 2, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Prelude *Cantabile* by Ernest Grosjean

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Two plus two is not equal to four... It is equal to four plus one because one is a powerful amalgamation. ~Enock Maregesi

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 *Holy Ground* | #2272 [Blue Songbook](#) (please sing twice)



We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground,
and I know that there are an - gels all a -
round; let us praise
Je - sus now; we are
stand - ing in his pres - ence on ho - ly ground.

Scripture Luke 9:28-36 | New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Now about eight days after these sayings, Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.

Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” — not knowing what he said.

While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

***Call to Worship** based on the words of Nancy Townley

One:	It is easy to stand here in the valley of our comfort.
Many:	We know what to expect and what is expected of us.
One:	But Christ calls us to the mountain top to receive a new vision.
Many:	We are not sure we are ready for that.
One:	Place your hope and trust in Jesus’ words and ways, for He is our guide.
Many:	He aligns with Moses who gave us the law and helped us to find freedom.
One:	He aligns with Elijah who teaches us how to be bold and gracious prophets.
Many:	Let us open our hearts to the Holy, ready for the vision placed before us.
One:	Make space for the Spirit who equips us and shows us the way.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** *When Morning Gilds the Skies* | #487 **Red Hymnal**



1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, My heart a - wak - ing cries:
2. Does sad - ness fill my mind? A sol - ace here I find:
3. Let earth's wide cir - cle round In joy - ful notes re - sound:
4. Be this, while life is mine, My can - ti - cle di - vine:



May Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer
May Je - sus Christ be praised! Or fades my earth - ly bliss?
May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky
May Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song



To Je - sus I re - pair: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
My com - fort still is this: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
From depth to height re - ply: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
Through all the a - ges long: May Je - sus Christ be praised!

***Opening Prayer** David Long-Higgins

God of mountaintops and valleys - and everywhere in between, we thank you for meeting us where we are. We thank you also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal. Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for Your alive Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus, also shine in us for the good of the world. Amen.

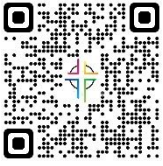
***Response** *Spirit of the Living God* | #322 **Red Hymnal**

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

Blessing the Children *This Little Light of Mine*
**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

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

Anthem *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* | First Sunday Choir

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light accessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

***Response**

**Praise God whose many names abound;
Our Peace, our Rock, Our Holy Ground,
Our Home, our All, Earth's Majesty,
Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen**

***Prayer of Dedication** based on the words of Renee Jackson

Holy One, we hear Your challenge to come up the mountain - yet we are afraid. What will we find here? We appreciate being away from the distractions of the world and we know You are a lover of justice - You have established equity. Our knees, yes even our souls, quake before your awesome presence. We are here to receive instruction in right living with compassion, justice and peace. We are here to regain insight to see the least among us, those whose rights have been trampled upon. We come attuned to the sounds of weeping and the anguished cries for justice. We come seeking wisdom and strength. Open our eyes, ears and hearts to receive You. Anoint us and send us to those who live on the margins – the outcasts, the lonely, the ignored. We are not interested in being afraid but in becoming more faithful and effective for love. Amen.

Scripture Exodus 34:29-35 | NRSV

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in

before the Lord to speak together, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with God again.

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



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



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



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

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

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

*Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine/Juice

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

***Communion Interlude** *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* by Joyce Jones

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** David Long-Higgins

Transfiguring and transforming God, in Jesus You spoke and we still hear and feel the echoes. Open our ears and our hearts to listen to Your beloved. Help us listen to Jesus... *love your enemies.*

Help us listen to Jesus... *forgive seventy times seven.*

Help us listen to Jesus... *go the second mile.*

Help us listen to Jesus... *you are the light of the world.*

Help us listen to Jesus... *you cannot serve God and wealth.*

Help us to listen to Jesus... *do not worry about your life.*

Help us to listen to Jesus... *do not judge.*

Help us to listen to Jesus... *search and you will find.*

Yes, Holy One who Shined on Jesus, shine on us. And may the words of Jesus become the light of our hearts and the actions of our lives. Amen.

***Song of Parting** *In the Midst of New Dimensions* | #2238 *Blue Songbook*



1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo-ple, war-ring fac-tions and de-spair,
3 As we stand a world di-vid-ed by our own self- seek-ing schemes,
4 We are one and we are man-y all per-sua-sions, old and young,
5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,



Who will lead the pil-grim peo-ples wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?
Who will lift the ol-ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
Grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage, might en-vi-sion wid-er dreams.
Each a gift in your cre-a-tion, each a love song to be sung.
May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir-it res-ur-rect the church a-gain.

Refrain



God of rain-bow, fier-y pil-lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your



peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev-er, now and ev-er, now and ev-er - more.

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Announcements**

***Music for Going Forth** *'Tis A Gift To Be Simple*

Announcements

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

TODAY: 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

Spring Friendship Dinners

Spring is right around the corner, and so are Friendship Dinners. A Sign-up sheet is in The Gathering Space where you can volunteer to host or be a guest. You can also email Cindy Wessel at cindywessel@yahoo.com. Hosts can also sign up to be a guest at another dinner.

We ask the host volunteers to indicate how many guests they will invite. The Friendship Dinner team will organize the dinners sometime in March, considering where people live.

Then, the host will call the guests on the date suggested. The host provides the main dishes, and guests bring a side dish or dessert. The host can also decide to host a Dutch dinner at a local restaurant. Questions? Contact Cindy Wessel cindywessel@yahoo.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 are now available in the Gathering Space for free.

We will host a Lent devotional discussion in the Heritage Room on Sundays starting March 9 at 9am. Please come!

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

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 19th 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.

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 PUCG 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 **Today** 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

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.

Adventurous Members Out Early

Thursday, March 6 | 9:15am | Heritage Room

AMOE meets this coming Thursday for coffee and pastries. Please join us as we share stories about Bill Owens, one of AMOE's legendary members. All are welcome. For more info, contact Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com.

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.

Prayer Corner: an opportunity to pray with someone

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

March 11 | 6-8pm | Heritage Room

Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731; Passcode: 792617

Please join us as we read and discuss our book selection for Lent entitled *Reading the Psalms Again for the First Time* by the Rev. Dr. Clint McCann from Eden Seminary. We will break this book into two sessions starting March 11.

We are excited to have Rev. McCann participate via Zoom for our first session. It promises to be an interesting study of how the Psalms encourage and inspire action within ourselves to work towards justice and peace.

Bring a dish to share for the potluck & join us for our next conversation!

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.

Annual Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown sponsored by PUC 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! The sign-up is in the Gathering Space. Thanks for your support!

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

Encourage a Special Olympian! Basketball Tournament

Saturday, March 29 | 12-5pm | Lindenwood University, St Charles

Bring your enthusiastic spirit as we volunteer with Special Olympics Missouri at their Basketball Tournament. We will be assigned duties upon arrival -- keeping score, cheering, making sure teams are on the correct court, giving medals? If you haven't been a part of the Special Olympics previously, you are in for a wonderful and heartfelt experience. If you have done this in the past with us, you know how impactful and inspiring this will be! We are looking for 5 additional PUCCers to be part of this adventure. Please RSVP by **March 23** by emailing **kevin@parkwayucc.org**.

Meditation Garden Youth Project

Sunday, March 30 | 10am | Garden Area behind New Church

PUCC is doing a new thing! On our March Jesus Has Left the Building service, we are going to be offering the youth and anyone else who would like to volunteer the opportunity to clean up and help create the Meditation Garden located in the back of the church. It will involve tilling the ground to remove weeds and some of the smaller shrubbery, levelling the dirt, placing a weed barrier, spreading mulch over the garden space, and edging it all with bricks. Plan to bring clothes ready to get dirty! Some tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own garden equipment. We will be needing anyone with a truck to help pick up the mulch prior to that Sunday. If you're able to help with that, please contact Gabriel Requadt **gabriel@parkwayucc.org**. If we all work together, the hope would be to finish it that day. All are welcomed!

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

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

**In a time of hate
Love is an act of resistance.
In a time of fear
Faith is an act of resistance.
In a time of misinformation
Education is an act of resistance.
In a time of poor leadership
Community is an act of
resistance.**

**In a time like this
Joy is an act of
resistance.
Resist. Resist. Resist.**

By Loryn Brantz



Prayer List

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Celebrations

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

Concerns

Family/friends of Marv Herpel - grieving & giving thanks for him!

Lori Connors - recuperating after a fall this week.

John Dwyer - recovering after a few days in the hospital.

Don Wandless - strengthening after last week's hospitalization.

Karla Wandless - critically ill in Washington MO (Don's daughter).

Pamela Burcham - has begun receiving hospice care (Stan's sister).

Mark McKenzie - hospitalized due to breathing issues (Tom's brother).

Lana and Joe Biondo - healing from her knee replacement on 02/25.

DJ Meyer & Lisa Davidson and family thru his mom's memorial svc.

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.

Carole Gwyn - ongoing health issues (David's mother).

Jim Butler and Jim Schwenkendorf families - grieving (McKenzie)

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

The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.

Continuing

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

Kathleen Tarr - healing after recent foot surgery - some complications.

Keith Borgmann - continuing to gain strength after illness.

Randy & Karla Beck - his recuperation journey 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).

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).

Ruth Hughes - Dec discharge from hospice; tests/PT now (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]

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]

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]

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

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).

TODAY 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).

THE POINT

The Messiah has come to serve and calls us to serve others.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Much of the significance of the transfiguration story depends on our knowledge of Old Testament stories, especially those of Moses and Elijah. The presence of Moses connects Jesus to God’s gift of the Torah and Israel’s freedom from slavery. The presence of Elijah makes a connection to the prophets, the individuals who delivered God’s messages to the people.

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.

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with him up a mountain to pray. As Jesus is praying, a great light appears and his physical appearance is changed. Moses and Elijah appear at his side. Peter, James, and John are overcome with awe. A cloud envelops them all and a great voice is heard saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice stops, the cloud goes away and Moses and Elijah disappear. When they come down from the mountain, a father approaches Jesus. His son is possessed by a demon. The father had asked Jesus’ disciples to heal the boy but they had failed. Jesus criticizes the faithlessness of this generation and heals the boy in a dramatic fashion. Jesus tells his disciples that he will soon be betrayed.

NEXT WEEK in Sunday School

Jesus tells the Parable of the Good Samaritan, in which a person cares for his enemy. Then, Jesus visits sisters Mary and Martha and encourages Martha to rest from her work and listen to him (Luke 10:25-42).

GOING DEEPER

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? Consider the following basic pattern as a way of forming family devotions:

- ❖ Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time." Pray a simple prayer together.
- ❖ Take a moment to check in with each other; what are each person's "highs" and "lows" today?
- ❖ Read aloud from the Daily Bible Readings from below. Discuss the questions following each.
- ❖ End with a blessing, by simply tracing a cross on each other's forehead. The Lord's Prayer is a good way to end your devotion time. If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotions.

Note: This is only a suggested pattern. It will vary with your household's context and patterns. What works best for you? First thing in the morning? Over breakfast? Bedtime? Be creative and flexible with how you practice and keep your devotions!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY: Luke 9:28-45

Jesus is named and claimed by God as the Messiah. When is a time when you felt transformed by the Holy Spirit?

MONDAY: Isaiah 55:1-3

God invites us to the abundant life. What material objects gave you momentary pleasure but then lost their appeal?

TUESDAY: Luke 9:46-50

Jesus teaches about the kingdom of God. What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "the least among you is the greatest"?

WEDNESDAY: Luke 9:51-62

As Jesus travels to Jerusalem, he is filled with a sense of urgency to fulfill his mission. What might Jesus ask you to stop doing so you could "proclaim the kingdom"?

THURSDAY: Luke 10:1-12

The mission of the seventy is explained. Why do you think Jesus told them not to bring money, a bag, or even extra shoes?

FRIDAY: Luke 10:17-20

Jesus equips his disciples with the power to heal and cast out demons. How might you feel if you were suddenly able to perform miracles?

SATURDAY: Luke 10:21-24

Jesus rejoices. How does it feel to know something big that only a few people, if any others, know?

Worth It

~Kate Kennedy

I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ. - Philippians 3:8 (NRSV)

For the past month, I've been on an organizational tear. I've opened every cabinet, drawer, and closet in my home, sorting through our stuff and ruthlessly donating things we don't use or need. Many of these discards were easy: laptops from 2010, bridesmaid dresses, CD collections that require long-lost boomboxes.

But a lot of them were harder for me. For example, books. How will people know I'm smart if my bookshelves aren't laden with tomes like *Wuthering Heights* and *Christianity in Early Antiquity*? And craft supplies—I may want to etch glass again someday! Really. I might!

The question that got me through these more complicated decisions was this: Will the joy outweigh the cost?

Will the freedom of extra closet space be nicer than the disappointment I'll feel if I finally find an occasion to wear that sequined top? Will every day that my kitchen drawers open smoothly offset the one day I need those special herb-cutting scissors I've used three times in the past five years?

Faith works like this, too. You have to make choices, sort through your values, lose some things. Some people might not like you because you're "always talking about race." Your family may miss Sunday morning soccer practice because of church. Life could get messy if you're arrested at a protest.

The promise of faith is that you will be freer with these losses than without them.

It's costly to claim your values fearlessly. It's hard to invest in meaningful community, especially in the face of competing priorities. It's risky to lay down your privilege, even a little, not knowing where it'll land you.

But faith is always asking: Will you lose your life to find it? Will the joy outweigh the cost? And faith is always promising it will.

Prayer

Holy one, may my faith be so life-giving that I'm ready to give away anything that isn't. Amen.