





www.parkwayucc.org

April 20, 2025

## Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 12 Announcements
- 17 Prayer List

## Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

---

### Purpose Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ strives to be an inclusive community embracing: spiritual nourishment, open-minded inquiry, courageous action, and interfaith partnerships to fulfill God's calling to create a just world for all.

### Congregational Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ, with God's grace, seeks to be a congregation that includes all persons, regardless of race, ethnic, or socio—economic background while respecting differences of gender, marital status, age, sexual orientation, and mental and physical ability. We aspire to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our open and affirming congregation.

## PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

---

2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131 | 314-872-9330 [p] | 314-872-9014 [f]  
parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org

Lana Biondo, *President of the Church Council* [puccpresident@parkwayucc.org]

Kevin Cameron, *Pastor* [kevin@parkwayucc.org]

Gabriel Requadt, *Christian Education & Admin Support; Licensed Minister*  
[gabriel@parkwayucc.org]

Amy Freeman, *Organist* [amy@parkwayucc.org]

Mona Smith Herberg, *Website and Graphic Design* [mona@parkwayucc.org]

Kathy Ferrell, *Building and Scheduling* [kathy@parkwayucc.org]

John Dwyer, *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org]

Dawn Friedmann, *Bookkeeper* [dawn@parkwayucc.org]

Julie Connors and Becca Palmgren, *Nursery* [juliestl1992@yahoo.com]

Kim Livengood, *Church Historian* [historian@parkwayucc.org]

Joyce Ruiz, *Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador* [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com]

Polly Rutherford, *Environmental Justice/Eco Stewards* [pollyrutherford@gmail.com]

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 Today

**Scripture Reader** is Bill Haack.

**Flowers** given by Sue Stolze in celebration of Easter!

**Treats after worship** provided by Amy and Doug Yakel.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these serving opportunities or join the corresponding 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](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

**All word and service music reprint** permission covered under CCLI License #2464265; CLCLI Streaming License #21357331

## 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](http://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

4/23 Warren Biest

4/23 Dana Delibovi

4/23 Clara Zander

4/25 Matthias Gwyn

4/26 Richard Scherrer

## Anniversaries

4/25 Laura & Phil Waite

# Easter Sunday: The Path Ahead

Sunday, April 20, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

**Flowering the Cross** Please place your flower in the cross anytime now or during the Prelude or Opening Hymn.

**Prelude** *Handel's Hallelujah Chorus* Arranged by Hans-Günter Heumann

**Welcome** Let us know you are here!

**Meditation** The energies that make us act out of anger, fear, insecurity and doubt are extremely familiar. They are like an old, dark house we return to whenever things get too hard to handle. It feels risky to leave this house and see what's outside, yet we have to leave. So we take the risk. We walk out into the light and offer ourselves to the beloved. This feels wonderful. It's like nothing we have imagined in our old, dark house. But when things get tough, we run back inside. We choose familiarity to fear and lovelessness over the vulnerability of love, until finally we feel safe enough to go back and try love again. ~Deepak Chopra

**Welcome Song** *O Happy Day*

(please sing along)

**O Happy Day**

**When Jesus gave**

**Gave new life always!**

**Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell**

**Easter Proclamation**

One: Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Many: **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Children's Choir** *Hosannah ~ Hallelujah*

(please sing along with the kids after they launch us)

**Ho-Ho-Hosannah**

**Ha-Ha-Hallelujah**

**He-He-He is Risen**

**Now I've got joy in the Lord**

**Kinderbells** *Jesus Loves Me*

**Passing the Peace of Christ**

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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

**Youth Chimes** *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

**\*Opening Hymn #123—Jesus Christ is Risen Today | Red Hymnal**



1. Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3. But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise e - ter - nal as God's love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky He's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise our God, ye heav - en - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*Scripture** Isaiah 25:6-9 | New Revised Standard Version—NRSV

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And God will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; God will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of the people will be taken away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited and waited so that God might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation.

## **\*Call to Worship** Cheryl Lindsay

One: At early dawn, when the light was just emerging and the shadows were still long and deep, the earth began to sing a tender and persistent *hallelujah*.

**Many: And the resurrection smelled like death and dirt. Christ, the Power of Love, is risen indeed. *Hallelujah*.**

One: At early dawn, with the salt of tears still crusting their eyes, the women began to sing a grieving and faithful *hallelujah*.

**Many: And the empty tomb sounded like weeping and questions. Christ, the Wounded One, is risen indeed. *Hallelujah*.**

One: At early dawn, when no one could remember the sound of hope or the promise of a new day rising, the world began to sing a fierce and determined *hallelujah*.

**Many: And the rising up tasted like bread and rejoicing. Christ, the Way of Truth and Life, is risen indeed. *Hallelujah*.**

One: At early dawn, as each day brings forth new agonies and injustices, we gather to sing a grateful and liberating *hallelujah*.

**Many: And this Easter feels like protest and praise.**

One: Christ is risen.

**Many: Christ is risen indeed.**

**All: *Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah*.**

## **Easter Candles**

We lit seven candles on Ash Wednesday as we began the Lenten journey. We wanted the light of the Holy to illumine our path as we sought to be the words and ways of Jesus.

We committed to being more infused by the Spirit as we traveled. Even as we knew this is good and important work, we recognized that it isn't easy - and that we would come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.

We extinguished one candle each time we gathered for worship in Lent, acknowledging that this can be tough and exhausting work. As we approached the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepared ourselves for the dawn and love of today - Easter morning...the light that never goes out!

## **Prayer at the Candles**

**Holy One, we traveled this Lenten journey, knowing that you were with us every step of the way, wherever we found ourselves – whether in the wilderness, at home, out in the vineyard, on the road, as a guest in someone else's house, entering/exiting the city, at table, in the darkness and as we move onto the path ahead. We continue to make this journey to be with Jesus and to become more like him. Refresh the light of Your Spirit to illumine our path and to help us as we venture forward as Easter people. Amen.**

## Response *The Servant Song*, all verses



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;  
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;  
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

**Children's Time** Children and Youth are invited to Room 13 on the Lower Level following this Children's Time for a special Easter Sunday School. Afterwards, we will enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt. We ask parents to pick up their children in Fellowship Hall and go with them on the hunt. There will be appropriate eggs for toddlers in a separate area from the older children. We will wait to start the Egg Hunt until parents are with their children. Happy Easter everyone!

**Blessing the Children** *Jesus Loves the Little Children*  
**Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.**  
**Every child in every land, Jesus holds them by the hand.**  
**Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

**Mission Moment** 2nd Mile Lent/Easter  
Heifer Int'l | Lydia's House | Unleashing Potential | Bread for the World

## 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](http://www.parkwayucc.org/giving)

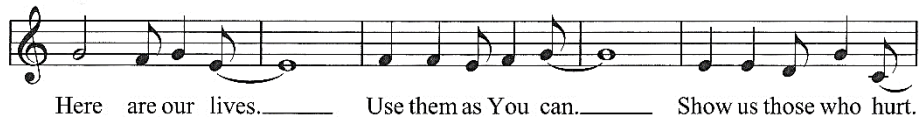
**Offertory** *Reflections from the Tomb* composed and shared by Elijah Gwyn  
You will notice a small moment of uneasy sound at the start. That is how it needs to be because of how the Easter story plays out with some confusion and mystery at the beginning. This represents how Jesus' followers found the tomb empty.... and then the hope and joy follow.

**\*Response** *Here Are Our Hearts* by Susan Drake and Julie Jennings

(please sing twice through)



Here are our hearts.\_\_\_\_\_ Here are our hands.\_\_\_\_\_



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



\_\_\_\_\_ Show us those in need.\_\_\_\_\_ Show us how to serve.



\_\_\_\_\_ Teach us how to see.\_\_\_\_\_

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Sharon Fennema

**To the witness of new life emerging, God open us.**

**To the work of new world building, God commit us.**

**To the power of love persisting, God dedicate us.**

**For the calling of faith rising up, God equip us.**

**For the promise to be with us every step of the way, God reassure us. Amen.**

**Scripture** John 20:1-18 | Common English Bible—CEB

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him." Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn't go in. Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus' head. It wasn't with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

They didn't yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.



Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. The angels asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

She replied, “They have taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they’ve put him.” As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn’t know it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabbouni” (which means *Teacher*).

Jesus said to her, “Don’t hold on to me, for I haven’t yet gone up to God. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, ‘I’m going up to my God... to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, “I’ve seen the Lord.” Then she told them what he said to her.

## 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 *Now the Green Blade Rises*



- 1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain;
- 2 In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
- 3 Christ came forth at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
- 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



Wheat that in dark earth for man - y days has lain;  
Think - ing that their Love would nev - er wake a - gain,  
Je - sus, who for three days in the grave had lain,  
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life a - gain,



Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:  
Quick from the dead the ris - en One is seen:  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:



Love is come a - gain like wheat that ris - es green.

## 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

Please come forward in the center aisle to receive the gifts of bread and cup. Gluten-free wafers are on the communion table. Grape juice is in the outer ring; wine is in the center. Please return by the side aisles. All are welcome at this *Open Table*.

## \*Litany after Communion Drew Ludwig

One: Jesus was beloved by the poor and the outcast

**Many: but he was a threat to people with power.**

One: Jesus stood against some of the teachings of the Temple,

**Many: so he was a threat to the writers of the law.**

One: Jesus healed on the Sabbath and ate with those considered unworthy,

**Many: so he was a threat to the ones who were bound by the letter of the law.**

One: Jesus took the titles of "Lord," "Son of God," and "King."

**Many: Those were Caesar's titles: so he was a threat to the government.**

One: Jesus came without violence

**Many: yet he disturbed the peace.**

One: Jesus came proclaiming the Kindom of God

**Many: and the kingdoms of this world were frightened.**

One: Lord, help us to love your people and your kindom more than the kingdoms and leaders of this world.

**All: For yours is the kindom, the power, and the glory - forever. Amen.**

**\*Song of Parting** #464—*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* | Red Hymnal



1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
3. Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho - rus Which the morn-ing stars be-gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open-ing to the sun a - bove.  
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
Love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, Join - ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; Drive the gloom of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flower-y mea-dow, flash-ing sea,  
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life.

**\*Benediction**

**\*God's Light Goes Forth**

**\*Postlude** *Guilmant's Paraphrase of Handel Op. 90*

# Announcements

Please use the form at [www.parkwayucc.org/communications](http://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 [@parkwayuccsfl](https://www.youtube.com/@parkwayuccsfl). There is a subscribe button under the main heading and brief description of our church. Thank you! Questions? Please contact [barbharris@charter.net](mailto:barbharris@charter.net) or [cynthianouri@gmail.com](mailto:cynthianouri@gmail.com)

## **Easter—Intertwine Style!**

### **Welcome our Jewish and Muslim friends**

This year, we've had a series of experiencing each other's holy days with our Intertwine Interfaith Initiative friends. Some of you have accepted the invitations to share Shabbat at Congregation Shaare Emeth and Iftar dinners breaking the Ramadan fast. Some of our Jewish and Muslim friends are here today to hear the Easter story of Jesus' resurrection and celebrate the renewal and hope of this new day. And some of them are very excited for their first official Easter Egg Hunt! Please welcome our friends warmly, answer any questions they may have about the holiday, help them navigate the flow of the morning, and enjoy this special celebration together. Salaam-Shalom-Peace!

## **April Earth Day Events in the St. Louis Area**

Please consider joining the community in these events at the end of the month

### **Earth Day Extravaganza at the Weber Road Library**

Tuesday, April 22 | 10:00am | 4444 Weber Rd. St. Louis, MO 63123

Celebrate Earth Day with special crafts and activities at the Weber Road Branch Library.

### **Earth Day**

Saturday, April 26 | 9-11am | Central Park Chesterfield

E-Cycling and Shredding, Textile recycling. In addition, there will be plants, seeds, trees and compost giveaways.

### **Recycling For A Cause**

Saturday, April 26 | 9am-12pm | 12851 Manchester Rd, Saint Louis, MO 63131

At the McCarthy Building in Des Peres, items that will be collected will be desktops, laptops networking gear, gaming consoles, TVs, and most items with a cord (no large appliances). All proceeds to benefit STL Hero Network.

### **Saint Louis Earth Day Festival**

April 26-27 | 11am-5pm both days | Muny Grounds in Forest Park

The St. Louis Earth Day Festival is a community tradition to learn about sustainable products and services offered by local businesses and organizations. The festival is held on the Muny grounds in Forest Park. It is free to the public. The festival features local entertainment and local Green Dining Alliance restaurants.

### **Manchester Maker's Mart & Arbor Day Festival**

Saturday, April 26 | 10:00am - 2:00pm | Schroeder Park

This is the 4th year for this Festival, Presented by Manchester Art.

## Creve Coeur Arbor Day Celebration & Art Contest

Sunday, April 27 | 1-3pm | Millennium Park

The community is invited to celebrate Arbor Day on April 27 at Millennium Park (2 Barnes West Dr.) with a free sapling giveaway, tree planting demonstration, activities for kids, educational displays, and a performance by Babaloo Music & Fun!

## Tuesday Evening Dialogue

Tuesday, April 22 | 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. 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](mailto:raceh@att.net).

## Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Friday, April 25 | 10am | 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: **Tuesday, May 20** at 2pm

Questions? Contact [kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org); 314-872-9330

## STL Association UCC Spring Fellowship Gathering Trivia Night

Friday, April 25 | Doors open 6:15pm; Trivia starts 7pm | 15370 Olive Blvd.

So far, we have 4 people at the table. We need 4 more. Cost is \$20 per person.

Scan or click the QR code to register!

There will be ten rounds of ten questions. The Association will provide: water, lemonade, soft drinks, and popcorn. We can decorate our table to celebrate something special about our church. We'll want to bring together a "gift card" basket for their silent auction. We ask the congregation to purchase gift cards and get them to Amy Yakel. She can put them together in a basket. Any dollar amount or place is fine. Amy will need the gift cards by **Easter Sunday**.



This event is intended to raise funds to support our contributions to Mission Partners, Members in Discernment and our Committees on Ministry.

For more questions, contact Amy Yakel at [da\\_yakel@att.net](mailto:da_yakel@att.net)

## Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am "Take Back America," by Cynthia Changyit Levin.

April 27 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

One of our most popular Speakers Series presenter, Parkway member Cynthia Changyit Levin has participated in eleven congressional lobby meetings in Washington DC and the St Louis area since February.

She'll share how the mood on the Hill is changing and give updates on some poverty programs, including foreign aid and Medicaid. Come ready to talk with others about your concerns about American democracy and think about new ways you'll stand up for programs that support our values and protect our vulnerable neighbors. We'll also all work together to create an advocacy action plan to live out our faith by speaking up!

Don't just sit back and moan and groan. Attend this must see program, in which Cindy will super charge your advocacy as a citizen of America.

For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at [gofivetpr@gmail.com](mailto:gofivetpr@gmail.com)

## **Intertwine Interfaith Game Night**

### **Deepen our interfaith friendships**

Saturday, May 3 | 6-8pm | Fellowship Hall

We will have all kinds of games available to pick up and play with others at round tables in our Fellowship Hall - including *chess, checkers, Uno, Operation, Sorry, Chutes and Ladders, Clue, Pictionary*. There will be *backgammon* and *mahjonn* lessons for beginners. There will be some fun group games and some rounds of *Bingo* for everyone - yes, PRIZES! Learn how to make balloon animals and juggle. The popcorn machine will be on, and we will have water, lemonade, coffee and tea. Please consider bringing halal and kosher treats to share. No RSVP needed. Just come! Questions?

Contact [kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org)

## **Be a Buddy! Special Olympics Spring Games**

Saturday, May 3 | 8:15am-3pm | Westminster Academy

This is one of the most rewarding volunteer jobs of all time! You will be paired directly with 1-2 athletes. You are required to spend the entire day together, accompanying them to each of their events to ensure they are on time and cheer for them as they compete, eat lunch together and visit Victory Village. Note: Due to the nature of this job you must be over the age of 16 (or directly accompanied by someone who is) and must be able to commit to this job for the entire day or until your athlete leaves. PUC is gathering half a dozen volunteers to join Kevin as a BUDDY! Click or scan the QR code to register.



For more info or need help registering, contact Kevin Cameron at [kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org)

## **Spring Family Friendship Potluck – Sunday, May 4**

For families with children, you are invited to a Friendship Potluck on Sunday, May 4. After service, we will head to the church playground where the kids can run around and play while the parents relax, get to know each other and enjoy the day! If it rains, we'll move indoors to the Fellowship Hall. Bring the entire family and a dish to share! Please RSVP to Cindy Wessel or Kathy Burcham.

Cindy Wessel [cindywessel@yahoo.com](mailto:cindywessel@yahoo.com)

Kathy Burcham [kathleenburcham@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kathleenburcham@sbcglobal.net)

For those who signed up for the Spring Friendship Dinners, the dinner hosts have been given the list of their guests. Guests will be contacted by their host to plan the dinner. Calling

## **‘Stadium Scare’ Escape Room for PUCG Teens**

Sunday, May 4 | 2:30-5pm | Mastermind Escape Room

Calling all middle schoolers and high schoolers to an Escape Room adventure! *During a sold out game at Busch Stadium, a maniacal character takes you and your friends hostage. He locks you in the bowels of the stadium and tells you a string of bombs will detonate in 1 hour if not disarmed by your team. To quench his thirst for twisted entertainment, he tells you where to start but not exactly how to turn them off.*

We will meet at church at 2:30pm before heading out.

Questions? Contact [kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org)

Click or scan QR code to register. Cost is \$10 per person.

Let us know if finances would hinder your participation.



## **Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – May 6**

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 on Zoom on May 6, May 20, and June 3 for discussion of the book *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. At each meeting we'll gather at 1:45 on Zoom to check in with each other and get to know each other better, and then discuss the book in thirds, one third of the book at each meeting.

This is the second Lisa See novel that TAD has read. The author accurately provides historical detail and context, and tells a fascinating story in each book that she writes. From the book jacket, this historical fiction book, set on the Korean Island of Jeju, follows two girls from very different backgrounds as they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective in the 1930s. The book spans wars and generations. After hundreds of dives and years of friendship, forces outside their control will push their relationship to the breaking point. This beautiful, thoughtful novel illuminates a unique and unforgettable culture, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous physical work, and the men take care of the children.

For more info, please contact Jackie Eiffert [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com)

## **Mother's Day Brunch**

Sunday, May 11 after worship in the Fellowship Hall. More details to come!

## **Adventurous Women Out Late 2025**

Come build relationships with other PUCGers 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.

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

Bring a snack to share! Movie TBA

Question? Contact Carmen Bumgarner at [cfbum@charter.net](mailto:cfbum@charter.net)

## **SAVE THE DATE: Habitat for Humanity Project—July 12**

Parkway UCC is doing our annual Habitat for Humanity housing building project on Saturday, July 12. More info to come. Donate to the STL Habitat for Humanity at <https://www.habitatstl.org/donate/>. For more info, or if you'd like to be on the 7/12 crew, contact Tom at [mckenzie1947@att.net](mailto:mckenzie1947@att.net)

## SAVE THE DATE: Youth Mission Experience – July 20-24

Pickup a flier today from [gabriel@parkwayucc.org](mailto:gabriel@parkwayucc.org)

### April Eco Stewards News The Importance of Native Plants

Everyone can do something small to help our planet. Do you know that insect populations have declined by about 45% in just the last 40 years? You may ask yourself why does this matter? I don't even like bugs! Insects are the foundation of our food chain. They feed the birds and other animals and pollinate our crops and flowers. We all depend on insects for our food.

Many insects are specialists, their caterpillars have evolved to feed on specific plants. They will die if they don't have those plants. An example is the Monarch Butterfly caterpillar which can only eat milkweed.

Unfortunately, many of the plants in our yards are not native, they are imported. Insects native to this area are unable to feed and reproduce on plants from other countries. You may have a yard full of flowering plants but if the plants aren't from this region your yard is a food desert for our insects. One simple thing you can do to help the insects is to plant a flower, tree or bush that is native to our area. Did you know that one white oak tree can support 537 moth and butterfly species?

Every native plant helps. If you don't have room for a garden or tree you can still help by planting a native plant in a pot on a patio. Even a simple act can have great benefits.

If you would like to learn more about native plants, please contact one of our Eco Stewards. We would be happy to answer any questions you might have. By Julie Harms. For more info, email Polly Rutherford at [pollyrutherford@gmail.com](mailto:pollyrutherford@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:cynthianouri@gmail.com);  
Barb - [barbharris@charter.net](mailto:barbharris@charter.net) or Gabriel - [gabriel@Parkwayucc.org](mailto:gabriel@Parkwayucc.org)



# Prayer List

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

## Celebrations

**The Lent/Holy Week/Easter Journey:** *Traveling with Jesus.*

**Martha Jean Smith** - new great-granddaughter for Charlotte Smith.

**Estela Margarita Dávila** born April 7 to Bethany Eiffert & Enrique Dávila -  
- grandmother Jackie Eiffert; great-grandma Marion Pleis.

## Concerns

**Kathleen Tarr** - home after hospitalization for flu and asthma flare up.

**Marion Pleis** - on the mend after fall; resting; sore but nothing broken.

**Bill and Kathy Hilgeman** - healing from his pneumonia.

**John and Dottie Dwyer** - as he continues medical tests and consults.

**Randy and Karla Beck** - in rehab for his leg; finally home this week.

**Family/friends of Mary Adkins** grieving/giving thanks for her.

**Vicki** - healing after back surgery (sister-in-law of John/Joyce Ruiz).

**Mark McKenzie** - for healing, clarity, refreshment (Tom's brother).

**Mark and Phyllis Rogers** - prep for move to Belize (Mike's brother).

**Rev Mark Boyea** (Sanibel UCC) - cancer tx after Easter (Svenson).

**Emily Sheldon and family** on the death of her grandmother (Haack).

The grief and resilience of **Myanmar and Thailand** after *earthquake*.

**Continued chaos and grief in the Middle East.**

**The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.**

## Continuing

**Jo Grove** - healing after a fall that resulted in stitches and bruised ribs.

**Lori and Dan Connors** - her broken shoulder blade and eye surgery.

**Herpel, Sieber, Klein, Waite, Haggard, Rosenberger** - grieving.

**Keith Borgmann** - continuing to gain strength after illness.

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

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

**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 and wife** - 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).

**Craig Hoffman** - career Navy officer receiving hospice care (Svenson).

**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.

**Ruth Hughes** - recent discharge from hospice; 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.

## 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]

**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.

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

**All who depend on USAID programs** that have been eliminated.

**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. Some in our church family also need help getting to worship. Please let kevin@parkwayucc.org know you are willing to help. You will be added to the list of potential drivers and will receive an email once we have a request for a ride.

## In Search of Wheels

Due to suddenly losing their car in a wreck, a PUCC family is looking to buy a used car or SUV. If you know of someone who is selling a vehicle, please let kevin@parkwayucc.org and he will make a connection.

## **LAST WEEK In Sunday School**

As Jesus passed through Jericho on his way to Jerusalem, he healed a man who was blind and ate with Zacchaeus, a tax collector who repents from his sins (Luke 18:31–19:10).

## **TODAY In Sunday School**

Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey to great celebration. But later that week, Judas agrees to betray Jesus, Jesus shares a last supper with his disciples, and Jesus dies on a cross mocked and forsaken (Luke 19:29-40; 22:1-6, 14-23; 23:32-47).

### **THE POINT**

**We celebrate Jesus as our savior, who lived and loved for us.**

### **BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS**

His disciples herald Jesus as a king. God had promised David that he would always have a descendant on the throne, but Israel had not had a king for the last 600 years. But God promised through the prophets that a new, anointed king (messiah) would come. Many Jews at the time hoped for the coming of this messiah to re-establish the kingdom of David and free the people from Roman rule. But Jesus offered a different understanding of “messiah”—one that his disciples had a hard time accepting.

### **STORY SUMMARY**

In the first of today’s stories, Jesus prepares to enter Jerusalem. In the city, a large crowd cheers his arrival, calling him a king and praising heaven for his mighty deeds. Jesus celebrates Passover with his disciples and tells them about his betrayal and crucifixion. This is the Last Supper that we remember in our celebration of Holy Communion. As he is dying on the cross, two men being crucified with him take different views of what is happening. One mocks Jesus, while the other seeks forgiveness from him. Even at his death, Jesus reaches out to comfort and forgive the criminal. At the moment of Jesus’ death, a Roman guard realizes that Jesus is who he says he is: the Son of God.

### **PRACTICE: Prayer**

One way to pray is with loud shouts of joy while dancing and celebrating Jesus as the Messiah. Just like Jesus’ followers in today’s story, we can take time out, once in a while, to sing and dance and shout out how happy we are that Jesus is our king. This week, look for opportunities to celebrate both the happy and sad events of Holy Week.

## **NEXT WEEK in Sunday School**

Angels announce to several female disciples that Jesus was raised from the dead. Later that day, Jesus walks with two disciples as they travel to Emmaus. He teaches from Scripture about himself, unrecognized until he breaks bread with them (Luke 24:1-12, 13-35).

## 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 24:1-12

Jesus is alive! What a wonderful surprise! What do you think you would have felt if you had been with the women at the tomb?

### MONDAY: Romans 5:12-21

Nothing can separate us from God's love. What types of sins take us further away from our relationship with God today?

### TUESDAY: Romans 6:1-11

We are tied to Christ and his victory over sin and death. We have died to sin but are alive in Christ. God's gift to us is eternal life. How does that make you feel?

### WEDNESDAY: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Read the verses leading up to and following this passage, and remember the context of these lines. What do you think of when you hear them?

### THURSDAY: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul gives a brief recounting of the life of Jesus. When you have done something wrong, how does it feel to be forgiven?

### FRIDAY: Hebrews 1:1-4

God continues to speak to us today. What barrier stand in the way of our ability to hear God's voice through other people?

### SATURDAY: Hebrews 10:1-10

Christ became the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. Do you find yourself trying to be "good enough"?