





www.parkwayucc.org

April 18, 2025

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

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

Congregational Statement

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

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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Welcome *to* Parkway

Thank you for joining us this morning! If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat or sending an email.

Welcome Children We invite children to full participation in worship. We also have activity bags for young children to use while they are here.

Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop their work and join in prayer.

Worship Serving Opportunities

If you would like to volunteer to be a lay reader, offer flowers, or provide treats after worship 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

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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

4/19 Cameron Carter

4/19 Carol Russell

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

Good Friday: In the Dark

Friday, April 18, 2025 | 7:00pm | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. ~Leo Buscaglia

Prelude *Christ's Last Words* by Amy Freeman

Welcome

Passing the Peace of Christ

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

Lighting the Candles and the Christ Candle

John 1:1-5
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

*Call to Worship

One: We have been to a great many places with Jesus and one another this season.

Many: We have been to the wilderness, dealing with temptations, fear and self-reflection.

One: We spent some time at home, immersed in memories and dreams.

Many: We have been in the vineyard, paying attention to growth opportunities and the nurture we and others need.

One: We have been out on the road, seeking, finding and offering extravagant welcome and grace.

Many: We have been a guest in someone else's house, being with them in disputes, death and dedication.

One: We have looked at entrances and exits, figuring out how we are called to show up and participate in Jesus' mission intentionally and with the Spirit's power.

Many: Last night we sat at the open table with Jesus and the disciples, seeking courage and strength - and blessing our traveling shoes.

One: Tonight, we approach the cross, looking for escape, seeking a way forward, hungry for reassurance and love.

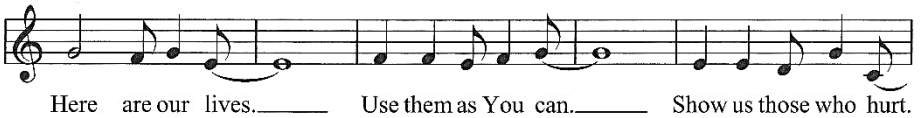
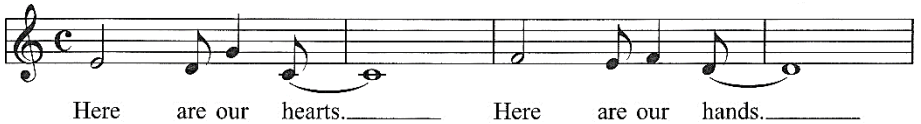
All: Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Lenten Candles

On Ash Wednesday, we lit seven candles as we embarked on this Lenten journey. We wanted the light of the Holy to illumine our path as we always seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We committed ourselves to being more infused by the Spirit as we traveled. Even as we knew this was good and important work, we recognized that it wasn't easy - and we would come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.

We have extinguished one candle each time we've gathered for worship this season, acknowledging that this is tough and exhausting work. Last night, after Jesus and the disciples celebrated Passover, received their first Communion and Jesus washed their feet, we extinguished the final candle. Although all of these candles are snuffed out now, we prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning... the light and love that is never really gone.

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



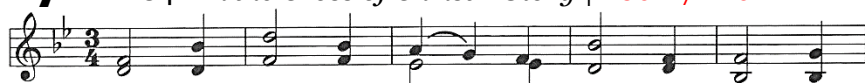
Prayer at the Candles

Holy One, we have traveled this Lenten journey, knowing that you have been 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 the table and now approaching the cross. We have been making this journey to be with Jesus and to become more like him. Continue to send the light of Your Spirit to illumine our path and to help us along the last leg of this journey. Amen.

*Placing Nails in the Cross

Please come forward during the opening hymn to place a nail in the cross. *We are not innocent.*

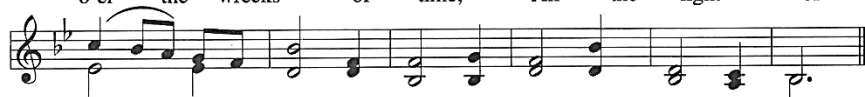
*Hymn #84—*In the Cross of Christ I Glory* | Red Hymnal



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing



o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, From the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that
o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.


Call to Confession

Silent Prayers

Assurance of God's Forever Love Based on Romans 8
We have this assurance that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Children's Time Children may remain with their families.
The Nursery is not staffed but it is open if your child needs a break from worship. You may also feel at home in the Gathering Space just outside the sanctuary.

Blessing the Children #2054—*Nada te Turbe* | [Blue Songbook](#)



Notation: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature, repeat sign, followed by a melody of eighth notes and chords.

Noth-ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.
Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te.



Notation: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature, first ending bracket with a repeat sign.

Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing.
Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta.



Notation: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature, second ending bracket with a repeat sign and a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

God a - lone fills us.
So - lo Dios bas - ta.

Psalter Lesson Psalm 22
My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.
Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame. But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads; “Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast. On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help. Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled; I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me; they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.

But you, O Lord, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me. I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Mission Moment 2nd Mile Lent/Easter

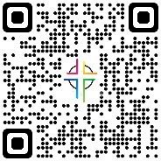
Heifer International

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

Offertory *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Unison Psalter Reading Psalm 23 in doxology form

God, You are my shepherd, I shall not want. You make me lie down in green pastures; You lead me beside still waters; You restore my soul. You lead me in right paths for Your name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in Your house forever.

Gospel Lessons

Matthew 26:20-22, 25

When it was evening, Jesus took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

Matthew 26:30-31a, 33-35

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.” Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

Luke 22:39-44

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.” Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, “God, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.”

Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

Mark 14:32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."

He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

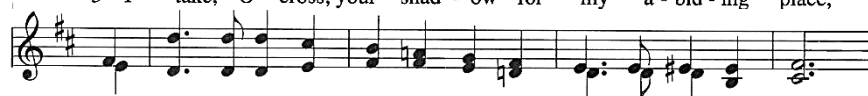
And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.

He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Hymn #92—Beneath the Cross of Jesus | Red Hymnal



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I glad - ly take my stand,
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus with - in my mind I see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land;
the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of Christ's face;



A home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my griev - ing heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess—
Con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the bur - den of the day.
the won - ders of Christ's glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

The Passion in the Gospels

John 18: 3-5, 19-23, 33-40a

So, Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus replied, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.

Jesus answered, “I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.”

When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?”

Jesus answered, “If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?”

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?”

Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?”

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.”

Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?”

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”

They shouted in reply, “Not this man, but Barabbas!”

John 19:16b-19, 25b

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Hymn #102—*Were You There?* | Red Hymnal



1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (Were you there?)
3. Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? (Were you there?)
4. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? (Were you there?)



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? Oh!
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?



Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

The Burial John 19:38-42

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body.

Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Return of the Christ Candle Hope to carry us to Easter morning

Removing Nails from the Cross Please remove any nail from the cross—place it in the basket below or take it with you. It is a reminder of the reality of nails and the fact that we are called and equipped to remove nails—an act of courage.

Jesus is no longer on the cross, which is now a symbol of God's grace and love—and a sign of freedom...but for tonight we relent and tomorrow we reflect and wait.

Departure in Silence

as we move into our 36-Hour Prayer Vigil to Easter Morning

Holy Week at Parkway: April 13-20, 2025

36 Hour Prayer Vigil from Good Friday evening through Easter morning. Sign up to take one of the hours as we observe this time alone and together.



Learn more and sign up using this QR code -

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 6am in Elm Lawn Cemetery (behind the Historic Sanctuary).

We will feel the son rise and the sun rise together.

What were the women thinking as they went to the tomb with their spices, fears and prayers? What do they do after this remarkable resurrection experience?

Easter Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary at 10am.... followed by the Easter Egg Hunt.

Our long journey of Lent and Holy Week brings us to this splendid surprise. Pick up a flower as you enter the sanctuary and place it in the cross where the palms and nails were during the week.

We have been traveling with Jesus every step of the way.
Where will he go next?
Where will we go?

++ All worship services are in person and on YouTube Live.

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 [@parkwayuccsl](https://www.youtube.com/@parkwayuccsl). 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

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. Our Jewish and Muslim friends are looking forward to hearing the Easter story of Jesus' resurrection and celebrate the renewal and hope of this new day. And they are very excited for their first Easter Egg Hunt after the 10am service. 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.

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.

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; 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

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 *mahjongg* 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

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

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
Kathy Burcham 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.

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

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.

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 cbum@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

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

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.