



www.parkwayucc.org July 27, 2025

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 11 Announcements
- 14 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

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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 Today

Scripture Reader is Jackie Eiffert.

Flowers given by Linda Tossing in honor of Bill Tossing's birthday.

Treats after worship Please consider signing up!

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

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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

7/27 Diane Tallyn
7/27 Andy Lowenthal
7/29 Sarah Stolze
7/30 Marion Pleis
8/1 Steffanie Rauscher

Anniversaries

7/28 Julie & Mark Harms

7th Sunday *after* **Pentecost**

Sunday, July 27, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Prelude Improvisations on friendship song "Good Mood" by Adam Levine (for Paw Patrol Movie)

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation If your day is hemmed in with prayer, it is less likely to come unraveled. ~Cynthia Lewis

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 (please sing twice) | Blue Songbook



Scripture Luke 11:1-13 Common English Bible

Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

Jesus told them, "When you pray, say:

'God, uphold the holiness of your name.

Bring in your kingdom.

Give us the bread we need for today.

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us.

And don't lead us into temptation."

Jesus also said to them, "Imagine that one of you has a friend and you go to that friend in the middle of the night. Imagine saying, 'Friend, loan me three loaves of bread because a friend of mine on a journey has arrived and I have nothing to set before them.' Imagine further that they answer from within the house, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up to give you anything.' I assure you, even if they wouldn't get up and help because of their friendship, they will get up and give this friend whatever they need because of the friend's brashness. And I tell you: Ask and you will receive. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. Everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. To everyone who knocks, the door is opened.

"Which parent among you would give a snake to your child if the child asked for a fish? If a child asked for an egg, what parent would give the child a scorpion? If you who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will God give the Holy Spirit to those who ask?"

*Call to Worship based on Luke 11:1-13

One:	Come, all who long to know how to pray, who seek connection deeper than words.
Many:	We come like the disciples, saying, "Lord, teach us to pray."
One:	Jesus welcomes our longing, offering not just words, but a way of life rooted in love.
Many:	We come ready to receive the prayer that Jesus taught - a prayer of justice, daily bread, forgiveness, and courage.
One:	Ask - and it will be given to you. Seek - and you will find. Knock - and the door will be opened.
Many:	We come as seekers, as questioners, as children of a generous God.
One:	The Holy hears, responds and gifts us with what we need most.
Many:	Jesus shows us how to root and ground ourselves in prayer.
One:	We come with and for one another. We are led and held by the Spirit.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.



*Opening Prayer

Holy Mystery, You who hear every voice, spoken or silent, meeting us in our longing and in our stillness. Teach us again what it means to pray. In a world of noise, remind us that prayer can be quiet. In times of struggle, remind us that prayer can be raw. When words escape us, remind us that sighs and silence are prayers, too. Thank you for being the One who welcomes the bold questions and the whispered hopes, the ancient liturgies and the unspoken aches. Help us not to measure prayer by its length or eloquence, but by its honesty, its trust, its opening of the heart. Let every breath we take be part of our prayer - for justice, for healing, for compassion, for peace. And may our lives, not just our lips, become prayers that bless 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.

Spirit of the living God move among us all; Spirit of the living God make us one in love; humble, caring, selfless, sharing— Spirit of the living God fill our lives with love! **Children's Time** For children under the age of 3, parents are invited to take them to Room 10 (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 10, parents please pick them up after worship. Children and youth from age 3 thru high school can be met in the Gathering Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship, as the teachers will bring them back upstairs after class.

Blessing the Children This, This is Where Children Belong #2233



Scripture A Potpourri of Psalms

Psalm 143:1

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! Answer me in Your faithfulness, in Your righteousness!

Psalm 65:2

O You who hear prayer, to You all people come.

Psalm 5:3

In the morning, O Lord, You will hear my voice;

In the morning I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch.

Psalm 55:17

Evening and morning and at noon, I will complain and murmur, and God will hear my voice.

Psalm 59:16

But as for me, I shall sing of Your strength;

Yes, I shall joyfully sing of Your lovingkindness in the morning,

For You have been my stronghold

And a refuge in the day of my distress.

Psalm 141:2

May my prayer be counted as incense before You;

The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

Psalm 69:13

But as for me, my prayer is to You, O Lord, at an acceptable time; O God, in the greatness of Your lovingkindness,

Answer me with Your saving truth.

Psalm 69:5

O God, it is You who knows my folly, And my wrongs are not hidden from You.

Psalm 55:1

Give ear to my prayer, O God;

And do not hide Yourself from my supplication.

Psalm 28:2

Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You for help, When I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.

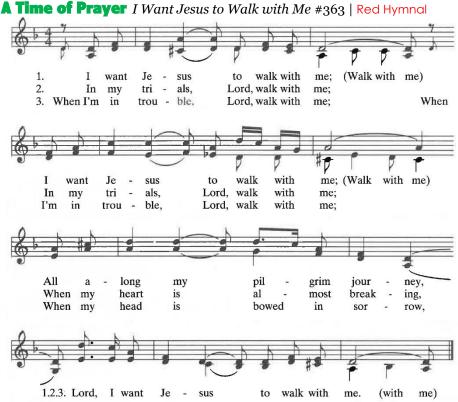
Psalm 102:1

Hear my prayer, O Lord!

And let my cry for help come to You.

Moment of Silence

Reflections Lynn Mark and Kevin Cameron



Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

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

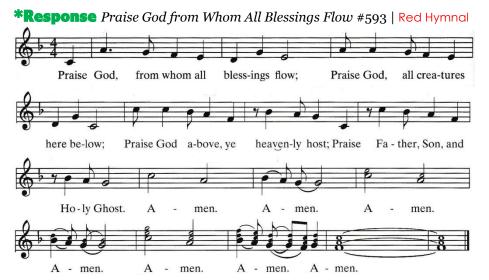
[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

Offering Our Gifts to God

If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the stand next to the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offering Interlude What a Friend We Have In Jesus



*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, we give thanks for every gift shared. Bless these offerings, not just for what they are, but for what they can become when they are mingled together with your Spirit. Let these gifts be seeds of your justice, planted in faith, watered with compassion, and grown in community. May they be used not to build walls, but to open doors wide... not to preserve comfort, but to stir holy disruption. With gratitude for all we've received, and with courage to give more than we thought possible, we dedicate these gifts to your vision of a more loving world. Amen.

*Song of Parting Song of Hope #432 | Red Hymnal



Work-ing for a world that's new,

Faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.

Verse 2 by Evelyn Buretta

Keep a prayer within your heart throughout the day Hope is always there for those who trust the Lord Give your time and comfort in a simple way Call for justice, hope will surely be restored.

Giving, use our gifts with love, Helping, for the ones in need, Striving, for equality Justice, when the need demands.

*Benediction

***God's Light Goes Forth**

*Music for Going Forth Invention No. 1 by J.S. Bach

Announcements

Please use the form at **www.parkwayucc.org/communications** for all announcements for our media. Bulletin and eNews deadline: noon Monday.

Our Communications Team is very active and is exploring all kinds of avenues. Please subscribe to our YouTube Channel today. Our YouTube Channel is **@parkwayuccstl** There is a subscribe button under the main heading and brief description of our church. Thank you! Questions? Please contact **barbharris@charter.net** or **cynthianouri@gmail.com**

Celebrate Summer Lyons! Support a New Teacher's Journey

Help out our 2025 Mizzou graduate and future elementary teacher Summer Lyons!

We knew Summer would become a teacher - she was always amazing with kids here at church, on youth mission trips and around St Louis when we helped a local mission. Let's continue to appreciate and bless the important work that Summer does!

If you'd like to help, she would greatly appreciate gift cards to Amazon, Target, or Walmart. You can also email her at **summer.lyons14@gmail.com** for Venmo information, or you can talk/give to her mom, Liz Lyons, directly!

Summer Opportunity with Isaiah

Parkway UCC is being asked to donate 130 boxes of 12-count colored pencils for school year 2026. As you are shopping now and through the summer, please pick up boxes of 12-count colored pencils. Walmart is currently offering Crayola color pencils at 97 cents a box if ordered online. Please place donations in the blue, marked box located in the lobby. This drive will end Sunday, 31 August.

For more info, email Evelyn Buretta at burettaevelyn@gmail.com

AWOL - Adventurous Women Out Late - Summer 2025

Come build relationships with other PUCCers.

Hey ladies! We are looking at our fall plans too! Ideas? Just send me what you'd like to do! I am hoping to add some old and new things.

Saturday, August 23: Dinner at Tiger Soup Dumplings. Have you been wanting to try TIGER SOUP DUMPLINGS? Let's try them together! Click or scan QR code to register by 8/17.





Saturday, September 20: *The Grand Finale* of Downtown Abbey!

We will attend the early afternoon showing at the Marcus Theatre in DesPeres.

Please RSVP by clicking or scanning the QR code so we know how many tickets to purchase.



Saturday, November 8 from 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Explore some historical highlights of St Louis architecture and how they changed the area from blighted to monumental. Tour begins at Union Station. Click or scan QR code to register.

Saturday, December 6 from 2-4pm

Come enjoy live theater with us -- *Emma* the play - based on the novel by Jane Austen at The Rep. Click or scan QR code to register.



Question? Contact Carmen Bumgarner at cfbum@charter.net

Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone

Tuesday, July 29 | 6-8pm | 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.

Upcoming dates:

Saturday, August 16 from 7-9am;

Monday, September 22 from 4-6pm

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue – Summer Break

We will be back on August 12.

For questions, please contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – Summer Break

TAD will take August off and resume in September. Please send Jackie Eiffert ideas of books you'd like to read, prior book suggestions and/or new ones, and she'll send out a list again.

For more info, please contact jeiffert2@gmail.com

Freedom From Hunger Community-Wide Food Drive

Saturday, August 2 | 10am-12pm | Multiple Locations (see below) Help Isaiah 58 Ministries feed children. Donate food at one of the convenient drop-off locations! Your support helps Isiah 58 Ministries provide healthy, nutritious food to families this summer and through the year.

Several collection sites - including PUCC

Requested Food: Peanut butter, beef stew, spinach & greens, and chili.

** We are also a donation location for Planned Parenthood as they collect diapers, baby wipes, formula, and other baby items, plus hygiene items for mothers and babies displaced and in need after the St Louis tornado.

There will be a container in the Gathering Space library area.

Questions? Please contact Sally Dodge **s.dodge@hotmail.com**.

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am

"Gabriel's General Synod Experience" by Gabriel Requadt

Sunday, August 3 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Come hear PUCCer's Gabriel Requadt as he regales his enthralling time he had at General Synod 35 that happened in July! He'll be sharing how he experienced Synod, the people he met, what General Synod is all about and what it means for our local church, along with sharing some of the resolutions that were passed that our church might like to consider. Come be a part of this sacred moment as we dig deep together!

Any questions or comments about programming, please visit with Richard Scherrer; any complaints, take it up with a member of his staff. For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Friday, August 22 | 2pm | Panera on Manchester Road in Des Peres Join us for a beverage and sweet treat. Come connect! No need to RSVP - just show up! Upcoming dates:

Wednesday, September 24 at 2pm

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

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW PUCC APP TODAY!

Parkway UCC's App is a robust tool that helps us connect and communicate easily. One Church is a gamechanger that will help us to be more vital. Scan the QR code to see the instructions for downloading the app:

Our online member directory is a feature many of you have been waiting for! We take your privacy seriously. The directory is accessible only to PUCC members and staff who use their password to login.

We have also begun using our new front door keypad installed on the brick wall to the right of the doors by our Safety Team. Please select your own unique 4-digit code and send it to **gabriel@parkwayucc.org** so we can load it into the keypad and troubleshoot as needed.

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

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

Questions? Contact: Cindy - **cynthianouri@gmail.com**; Barb - **barbharris@charter.net** or Gabriel - **gabriel@Parkwayucc.org**

Prayer List Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Celebrations

Peggy & Jack Sieber - as she is cleared to drive with new knee. **Youth Mission Experience this week** - Habitat for Humanity; World Bird Sanctuary; Circle of Concern; St Louis Area Food Bank; Isaiah 58; Emmaus Homes; Unleashing Potential; Metro Trans Umbrella... PUCC projects, speakers, films, discussions, games and tomfoolery, two overnights at church. Cardinals Game and more.

Concerns

Nancy Litzinger - healing after complicated heart surgery.
Kathy and Bill Hilgeman - her new knee; his medical challenges.
Tina - septic pneumonia (stepmom of Dawn Jones-Goldstein).
Baby Saylor Yettaw - PICU with Type 1 Diabetes (Jones-Goldstein).
Elaine - cancer treatments; surgery 7/29 (Melanie Muchnick's mom).
Ongoing chaos and grief in the Middle East.
The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.
Our StL neighbors after the tornado in May.

John & Dottie Dwyer - gaining strength after his heart procedure; PT.

Continuing

Kari and Keith Borgmann - grieving/giving thanks for her mother. **Paige Penico and Family** - as they grieve and give thanks for Steve. Cathy and Rick Hasler - both in midst of health challenges, treatment. **Carole Gwvn** - ongoing health issues (David's mother). Judy Brueggemann - new health challenges (Brad's mother). **Richard** - treatments for congestive heart failure (Greg Schmelig's dad). **Derek** - residential treatment for substance addiction (Akers). Kenton & Teal Blacksten - K's many health challenges due to diabetes **Bob Messey** - serious health concerns (Svenson). **Phil and Amy and daughter B** - as his terminal illness progresses. Mark McKenzie - for healing, clarity, refreshment (Tom's brother). John Ruiz's oldest brother and wife - healing in Cape Girardeau. John & Nancy Tallyn - his heart condition; her recurring leukemia, etc **Danny Venverlo** - awaiting a kidney transplant (McDougall). Pam and David - divorcing after 55 years of marriage (Akers). **Sharon and Chuck** - a variety of health issues (Gerry Rogers' cousins). Craig Hoffman - career Navy officer receiving hospice care (Svenson). Haack's doctor and his wife Christine - her ongoing health crisis. Renee Pellegrino & family - as she deals with multiple health issues. **Rebecca Ray** - that her book on suicide prevention will be published. 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; 314-983-025 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]

Ellie Svenson - Mason Pointe - 13190 South Outer Forty Rd, #2213; Town and Country, MO 63017; 314-323-7194 [birthdate: June 19]

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, PUCCers 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.

All Together

Rachel Hackenberg

They were all together in one place. - Acts 2:1b (NRSV)

After Jesus's resurrection, the disciples gathered together often, trying to make sense of life without him. Sometimes they gathered behind locked doors in fear. Sometimes they met in familiar places, like their fishing boats, with a longing to return to that elusive state called "normal." Sometimes they came together to observe the rhythms of religious life: the holy days and the prayers and the commemorations.

"Together" was important to them.

Together is often where we find God. When we're struggling to find God, together is how we hold on. Together is a practice through which we make meaning.

Together is also a place where we can become stuck:

Together can become sufficient, providing comfort without challenge, adequacy but not abundance. Together can become safe for the sake of staying in, to the neglect of going out. Together can become authoritative: a condition of "them versus us," a preservation and indoctrination of meaning, a closed community into which nothing new is invited or imagined.

In those early days of their post-resurrection faith, Jesus's disciples stuck together...

...until, at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit divided their stuck-togetherness with a rush of winds and multiplied new togethers like flames of fire. Those new togethers, in turn, multiplied new dreams. New possibilities. New gatherings. New expressions of God's presence.

Together is not only the place to which we come.

Together is the place from which we are sent.

Because "all together" is the Spirit's call, not simply Her comfort.

Prayer:

Whether we are going out or coming in, joining together or parting ways, O God of all, you envision us together. Release us where we are stuck. Disrupt us where we cling to the familiar. Divide and multiply us by your Spirit, we pray.

Consider signing up to receive these UCC daily devotions from our God is Still Speaking writers:

https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/

