

PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org

August 3, 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

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, Amy Yakel *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org]

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

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 Sue Moellering.

Flowers given by Greg Schmelig in celebration of his and Douglas Reynolds' anniversary.

Treats after worship Carol and Harold Cobb.



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

8/3 Brian Waddell

8/3 Robbie Frazier

8/4 Lori Connors

8/5 Charlotte Von Ahn

8/5 Amy Cobb

8/7 Laura McKenzie

8/8 Ruth Peace

8/9 David Gwyn

8/9 Kevin Cameron

Anniversaries

8/9 Greg Schmelig & Douglas Reynolds

8th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, August 3, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Prelude *Home on the Range*

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Human history can be viewed as a slowly dawning awareness that we are members of a larger group. Initially our loyalties were to ourselves and our immediate family, next, to bands of wandering hunter-gatherers, then to tribes, small settlements, city-states, nations. We have broadened the circle of those we love. We have now organized what are modestly described as super-powers, which include groups of people from divergent ethnic and cultural backgrounds working in some sense together — surely a humanizing and character-building experience. If we are to survive, our loyalties must be broadened further, to include the whole human community, the entire planet Earth. Many of those who run the nations will find this idea unpleasant. They will fear the loss of power. We will hear much about treason and disloyalty. Rich nation-states will have to share their wealth with poor ones. But the choice, as H. G. Wells once said in a different context, is clearly the universe or nothing. - Carl Sagan

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

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome Song *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Scripture Psalm 107:1-9, 43 | Inclusive Language Psalter

Give thanks to God, for God is good.
God’s mercy endures forever.
Let all those whom God has redeemed proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
God gathered them out of the lands;
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
Some wandered in desert wastes;
they found no way to a city where they might dwell.
They were hungry and thirsty;
their spirits languished within them.
Then they cried to God in their trouble,
and God delivered them from their distress.
God put their feet on a straight path
to go to a city where they might dwell.
Let them give thanks to God for God’s mercy
And for the wonders God does for God’s children.
For God satisfies the thirsty
and fills the hungry with good things.
Whoever is wise will ponder these things
and consider well the mercies of God.

***Call to Worship**

One:	Come, let us gather with open hearts and curious minds, ready to wrestle with the mysteries of the Divine.
Many:	We come seeking wisdom, not easy answers - longing for a truth that transforms.
One:	God does not demand certainty, but invites us into holy wondering and curious conversation.
Many:	In questions and silence, in stories and songs, we meet Jesus who walks with us.
One:	Let us bring our doubts, our hopes, our longings, and all that we are into this sacred space.
Many:	We come, ready to be surprised by grace, to be moved by love, and to ponder the things of the Spirit.
All:	Let us worship our God together - Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** #2171—*Make Me A Channel of Your Peace* | Blue Songbook



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ Where
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ Where
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. _____ Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. _____ Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, _____ in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, _____ and
 there is dark-ness, _____ on-ly light, _____ and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, _____ and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you. _____
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy. _____
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life. _____



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek _____ so



much to be con-soled as to con-sole. _____ To be



un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, _____ to be



loved as to love with all my soul. _____

*Opening Prayer

Generous and Loving God, You have gifted us with breath, with time, with community, and with blessings too many to count. You invite us not to hold tightly, but to open our hands, our hearts, and our lives.

In this sacred space, remind us that what we have is not ours to keep - but to share, to multiply, to use for the healing of the world. May we be bold in our generosity, joyful in our giving, and faithful in our stewardship of all we've received.

As we worship today, teach us again the power of compassion, the beauty of interdependence, and the call to live with openness and grace.

We pray in the name of Love made known. Amen.

*Response *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

Children's Time For children under the age of 3, parents are invited to take them to Room 09 (upper level) where one of our teachers will meet them at the door. Children from age 3 to 5th grade will go to Room 12, and youth from 6th to 12th grade will go to Room 15. For children in Room 09, parents please pick them up after worship. Children and youth from age 3 thru high school will come back up with their teachers for Communion with all of us.

Blessing the Children #2233—*This is Where Children Belong* | [Blue Songbook](#)



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

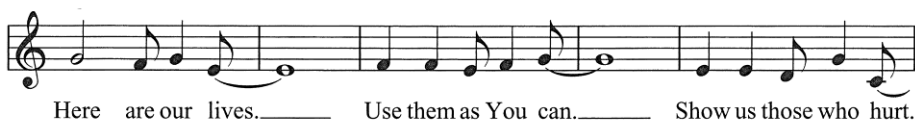
First Sunday Choir *It is Well With my Soul* with alternate lyrics...
new lyrics by Kimberley Debus, 2009

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, faith has taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though pain, tribulation, and trials should come
Let this simple prayer now console
Though I have regarded my helpless estate
I shall know it is well with my soul.
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

When life beareth down, and no answers arise
And all is beyond my control
My heart still can rest in the peace I have found
And proclaim it is well with my soul.
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

***Response** *Here Are Our Hearts*



***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, you have shown us that life does not consist in the abundance of possessions, but in the richness of love, justice, and community. We bring these offerings today not to build bigger barns, but to build a bigger table - a place where all are fed, where no one is forgotten, and where your kingdom comes closer with every generous act. Free us from the fear that says we never have enough. Open us to the joy of enough - for all. May these gifts be a sign of our trust in your abundance and our commitment to your ways of grace and justice. Amen.

Scripture Luke 12:13-21 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”

Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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 #514—Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ | Red Hymnal



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex-press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - ery-where!

Refrain (first time p, second time f)



Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

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

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

*Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine/Juice

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

Communion Interlude *Jasmine Flower (茉莉花 - Mò Lì Huā)*

(Traditional, Arr. for Piano by Yap Voon Lee)

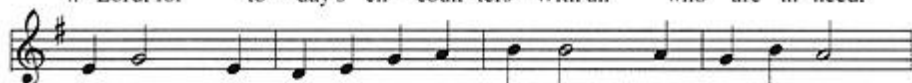
*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy One, we give you thanks for this simple, sacred meal. In the breaking of bread and the pouring of the cup, you have met us in the most ordinary things - and made them sacred. We have tasted grace with our lips, felt communion in our bones, and been reminded that love is not scarce, but spilling over-abundant, uncontainable, free. Thank you for this table where none are strangers, and all are fed - where wounds are held, and hope is poured like wine. As we rise from this feast, may our lives become the prayer - our hands the blessing, our hearts the open door. Let us carry this mystery into the world, every hunger is met, and your dream of wholeness is real among us. Amen.

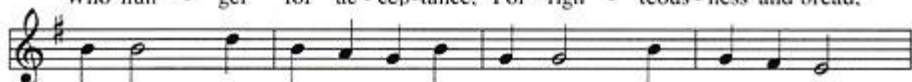
***Song of Parting** #358—*Help Us Accept Each Other* | Red Hymnal



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



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



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



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

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

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](https://www.youtube.com/@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

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am **"Gabriel's General Synod Experience" by Gabriel Requadt**

TODAY | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Come hear PUCCer Gabriel Requadt as he regales the 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!

"This Old House Comes to Parkway Church," by Ted Swider.

Sunday, August 10 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Ted Swider is a self-taught craftsman, stone mason, designer, architect, entrepreneur, real estate investor, and general contractor. He loves pushing creative boundaries, paying homage to history, and sourcing local materials. Ted vows he can build anything and he will prove it with his account and photo journey of two of his most unusual projects: one converting a fire damaged, condemned wreck of a structure in the Gravois Park neighborhood into a modern home, and the other a Land Reutilization Authority property he bought for \$1,000.00 and converted into a Southside jewel.

The Speakers Series Presents: "Fifty Years of Living My Dream," by St. Louis artist Tim Eberhardt.

Sunday, August 17 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Tim Eberhardt is a South St. Louis artist whose 50 years of making art include paintings, photographs, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, and what he calls hyper-realistic figurative sculptures that speak or act when people approach. Join us for this speakers series program as we honor Tim's legacy to creative and diverse art.

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

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!

Adventurous Men Out Early

"AMOE" meets this **Thursday, August 7** at 9:15am in the Heritage Room. All are welcome. We always meet on the first Thursday of the month at the same time and place. For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**

Interfaith Peace Gathering

Sunday, August 10 | 2-4pm | Schroeder Park – Office Pavilion 1

Join the West County Interfaith Alliance and get to know your neighbors.

There will be refreshments, music, and fellowship. Please bring school supplies to donate to the Parkway School District. All are welcome. No exceptions! For more info, contact Peggy Schaefer

pbschaefer@sbcglobal.net

Service of Hope & Healing

Sunday, August 10 | 4-5:15pm | 10 W. Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves, MO
The LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance will hold a free Service of Hope & Healing at First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, UCC. The afternoon for LGBTQ+ students and the people who love them includes an interfaith service of music, meditation, readings and ritual, and an opportunity to engage in expressive community building. RSVP by **Aug. 8**. Refreshments and a back-to-school gift bag for students will be included. Please contact the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance to register and for more information at **lgbtfaithalliance@aol.com**

Tuesday Evening Dialogue – Summer Break

We will be back on August 12.

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

Let's Talk Aging: Ambiguous Grief and Loss

Tuesday, August 12 | 12-1:30pm | STL County Public Library - Central Library

Ambiguous loss is a type of loss we feel when a person with dementia is physically here but may not be as emotionally or mentally present as they used to be. This special program, part of a series of events offered by VOYCE, is FREE of charge and includes lunch.

Following the program, participants can visit a special exhibit displaying a Century of Evening Bags!

Registration is required and space is limited. Click or scan QR on this link for more information.



Sacred Objects Across Religions Connecting Through Symbols and Faith

Thursday, August 14 | 6:30-8:30pm | 2841 N. Ballas Rd, St. Louis, MO

Have you ever wondered what a teffilin is in the Jewish faith? Or what happens at Kaaba in Mecca for Muslims? Why does the Greek Orthodox church have a distinct smell in their house of worship? Why do Hindus have so many altars in their temples? Join Interfaith Partnership at Parkway UCC as we explore an in-depth conversation about sacred symbols. Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism will be presented. Contact Kevin Cameron kevin@parkwayucc.org for more info.

Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone

Saturday, August 16 | 7-9am | New Sanctuary

Drop-in Prayer Time. Kevin will be in the Prayer Corner in the Sanctuary. Come on by if you'd like to pray together.

If you see someone else there, simply wait a bit in the Gathering Space.

Upcoming dates:

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

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

Festival of Nation Volunteer Opportunity

Aug. 23-24 | Tower Grove Park

The 2025 Festival of Nations is less than one month away and they need your help! Click or scan QR code to sign-up, or you can go to the webpage at iistl.org/volunteer -> Volunteer Opportunities to see the opportunities for the festival. If you are interested, please help support the International Institute by signing up for one or more of the available volunteer shifts. Your support is truly appreciated, and they couldn't pull-off a successful Festival without the help of their volunteers!



They are seeking volunteers for the following roles:

- Set-Up and Tear-Down
- Green Team
- Welcome & Info Tables
- Merchandise Sales
- Honey Sales
- Parking
- Survey Conductors
- And More!

All volunteers will receive a volunteer t-shirt and an invitation to a volunteer orientation. Thank you for helping to make this year's Festival of Nations a successful event!

AWOL—Adventurous Women Out Late

Come build relationships with other PUCers.

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 9:30am-12:00pm
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**

Parkway Inquirers Getting to Know PUCC—and Being Known

Tuesday, August 26 | 6:30-7:45pm | Heritage Room

Inquirer: someone who wants to know more about Parkway UCC. The next PARKWAY UCC Inquirers' Gathering will be a dessert night Tuesday, August 26 from 6:30-7:45pm in the Heritage Room. Our goals for that evening include:

- Getting to know one another a bit more
- Describing Parkway's worship, outreach, education, leadership, fellowship
- Taking a look at our denomination, the United Church of Christ
- Sharing ideas about the exciting future of Parkway UCC
- Soliciting your thoughts on how we can be a more welcoming and inviting community of faith
- Discussing some key issues of faith
- Answering any of your questions

You will find our time together meaningful and informative. Some churches call this sort of gathering a New Members Class - we do not. While we do know that there are a number of visitors who have expressed interest in becoming members of the church, we do not assume that Inquirers are seeking membership. We just want to be hospitable, get to know you and have the chance to express gratitude for your presence among us.

****Childcare** is available that evening if requested ahead of time. Please let us know if you are planning to be with us! Contact **kevin@parkwayucc.org** for more info

Summer Opportunity with Isalah

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, August 31.**

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

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**

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 30, 2025

Celebrations

Rick - in remission after stem cell treatments (Laura Waite's father).

Concerns

Nancy Litzinger - healing at home after complicated heart surgery.

Ashley & James Milam Family - grief/gratitude for her grandfather.

Cindy Changyit Levin and family - mom's serious health struggles.

Karla Beck - as her brother seeks care and the family shares peace.

Kathy and Bill Hilgeman - her new knee; his medical challenges.

Rich - hospitalized for sepsis, loss of limb, coping strategies (Schmelig).

Tina -healing after hospitalization (stepmom of Dawn Jones-Goldstein).

Baby Saylor Yettaw - home with Dexcom monitor (Jones-Goldstein).

Elaine - cancer treatments; surgery 7/29 (Melanie Muchnick's mom).

Violence across the United States - incl deaths in Nevada, Illinois.

Agreement and peace for the people of Thailand & Cambodia.

Ongoing chaos and grief in the Middle East.

The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.

Our StL neighbors after the tornado in May.

Continuing

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

Paige Penico and Family - as they grieve and give thanks for Steve.

Cathy and Rick Hasler - both in midst of health challenges, treatment.

Carole Gwyn - 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]

Gladys 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.

It's Peace Camp, Not Calm Camp

Jennifer Ruth Lynn Garrison

Cast your cares on God and they will sustain you; they will never let the righteous be shaken. - Psalm 55:22 (NIV, adapted)

Can I be honest? Peace Camp is not always...peaceful.

Every year, my beautiful congregation hosts a weeklong Peace Camp for the children in the neighboring county. We do crafts, play cooperative games outside, sing old songs, and read new stories to each other. But the main thing we do is try to be a peaceful community for a week.

Well, it's hot. The days are long. Someone's feelings get hurt and they burst into tears. Someone pokes the person next to them, but it's not exactly clear who is the poke-ee and who is the instigating poke-er. Someone made something beautiful, but now no one can find it and maybe it got taken out with the recycling yesterday. We take turns crying or fuming or kicking the empty recycle bin.

But the cool thing about Peace Camp is this: When peace collapses, which it does approximately ninety-three times per hour, we take a breath and we try again.

It's not that we are, as the psalmist promises, never shaken. It's just that we've made a promise to the Divine, and to each other, to cast down the cares that stand in the way of peace, as many times as it takes.

I guess when I first heard about Peace Camp, my first image was of gentle calm. But we are not the unshaken righteous of the psalm. We are real live people creating peace one real live interaction at a time, with grit and sweat and tears.

Prayer:

Holy One, remind us ninety-three times every hour that—although the way of peace is not always an easy path—it is always a good one. Amen.

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

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

