



www.parkwayucc.org August 10, 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]

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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 Evelyn Buretta.

Flowers given by Marilyn McDougall in memory of her father's birthday.

Treats after worship provided by Karen Mariani.

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: 1800-248-8336

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

8/11 Elijah Gwyn 8/13 David Sontag 8/13 Judy Waddell 8/11 Blake Lyons 8/14 Suzanne Waddell 8/11 DJ Walker

8/12 Roy Williams 8/14 Sue Stohr

8/12 Alexander Roesler 8/15 Dottie Dwver 8/13 Dan Burkhardt 8/16 Skip Larson

Anniversaries

8/10 Kris & Tom McKenzie

8/11 Sue & Charles Moellering 8/13 David & Jill Schatz

8/15 Julie & Thad Stappenbeck

9th Sunday after **Pentecost**

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

Prelude Rainbow and Clouds, lyrics by Christina Rossetti and music by Martin Shaw

Welcome Let us know you are here!

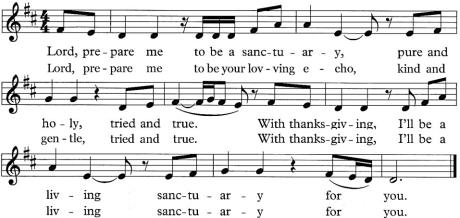
Meditation I am a lover, and I deal in love. Sow flowers, so your surroundings become a garden. Don't sow thorns; for they will prick your feet. We are all one body. Whoever tortures another, wounds himself. ~Rahman Baba

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 Sanctuary



Scripture Isaiah 1:16-20 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove your evil deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do good; seek justice; rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow.

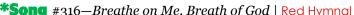
Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord:

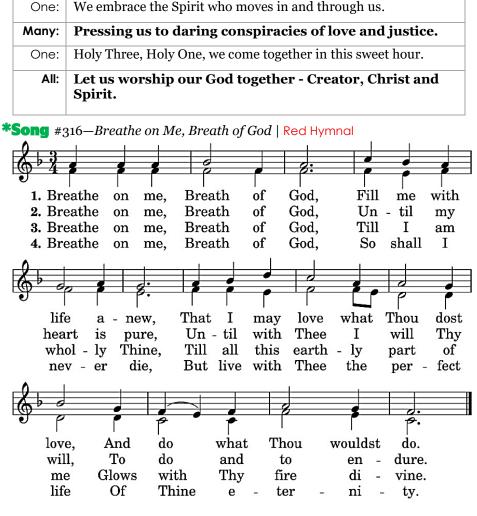
If your mistakes are like scarlet, will they become like snow?

If they are red like crimson, will they become like wool? If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land, but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

*Call to Worship The United Church of Canada

The chilea charen of canada	
One:	We gather as part of God's great diversity.
Many:	Made in the image of God, you and I.
One:	We sing the Creator's love song of life.
Many:	Giving voice to the sacred, deep in our hearts.
One:	We live hope and take risks as the Jesus movement.
Many:	Called to bold discipleship in our time.
One:	We embrace the Spirit who moves in and through us.
Many:	Pressing us to daring conspiracies of love and justice.
One:	Holy Three, Holy One, we come together in this sweet hour.
All:	Let us worship our God together - Creator, Christ and Spirit.





*Opening Prayer Lakota Prayer

My spirit is one with you, Great Spirit.

You strengthen me day and night to share my very best with all of my siblings.

You, whom my people see in all of creation and in all people, show your love for us.

Help me to know, like the soaring eagle, the heights of knowledge. From the four directions, fill me with the four virtues of fortitude, generosity, respect, and wisdom so that I will help my people walk in the path of understanding and peace. 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 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 09, 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 Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so; Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way, Wanting as a friend to give, life and love to all who live

Yes, Jesus loves me...

Scripture Luke 12:32-40 | NRSVUE

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is our God's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

"Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves...

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer Sweet Hour of Prayer



- 1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care.
- 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
- 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe ti tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known. of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn! to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea-sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief, With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav-ior's face, And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be-lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re-turn, sweet hour of prayer!

And glad-ly take my sta-tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

I'll cast a-way my ev-ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

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

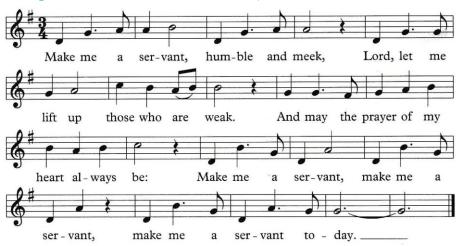


If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the stand next to the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offering Interlude I Want to Be Ready by Harold Miller

*Response #2176—Make Me a Servant | Blue Songbook



*Prayer of Dedication United Farm Workers

Show me the suffering of the most miserable so I will know my people's plight.

Free me to pray for others

for you are present in every person.

Help me to take responsibility for my own life so that I can be free at last.

Grant me courage to serve others

for in service there is true life.

Give me honesty and patience

so that I can work with other workers.

Bring forth song and celebration

so that the spirit will be alive among us.

Let the spirit flourish and grow

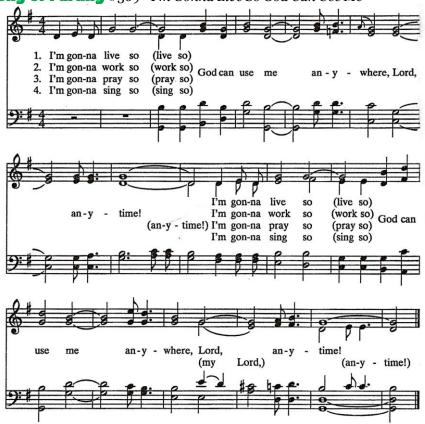
so that we will never tire of the struggle.

Let us remember those who have died for justice for they have given us life.

Help us love even those who hate us,

so that we can change the world. Amen.

*Song of Parting #369—I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me



- *Benediction
- *God's Light Goes Forth
- *Music for Going Forth Pretty Ukulele Song by Kevin from AllforUke

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**

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am "This Old House Comes to Parkway Church," by Ted Swider.

TODAY | 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 | 11:115am | Heritage Room

Tim Eberhadt is a South St. Louis artist whose 50 years of making art include paintings, photographs, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, and what he calls hyperrealistic 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**

West County Interfaith Peace Gathering

TODAY | 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, kevin@parkwayucc.org, or Dana Delibovi danadelibovi@gmail.com

Service of Hope & Healing

TODAY | 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 date has passed, but you are still welcome to attend. 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

Tuesday, August 12 | 6-8pm | Heritage Room Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731; Passcode: 792617

Please join us on **August 12** for our *first* TED session back after summer break.

What have you read over the summer? That night we will have an "Open Book" night in which we all share in the discussion of some of our favorite books and we will also choose our next TED selection. Please come for potluck at 6pm followed by group discussion at 7pm.

Newcomers are always most welcome!

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.

Thank you to our refreshment team for that evening: Michelle Singer and Evelyn Buretta ... and our AV team: Andy Lowenthal and Mike Rogers. 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 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 9:30am-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 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, 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

Fall Friendship Dinners Sign up by September 14

It's time once again to schedule our Fall Friendship Dinners. You can sign up to be both a host and a guest, or just sign up to be a host or a guest. Please also indicate if you are interested in a family-friendly potluck event to be held at

the church. There is a sign-up poster in the Gathering Space, or you can sign up using One Church. Please provide your contact information; hosts need to indicate how many guests they can accommodate. The deadline to sign up is **Sunday**, **September 14**. Scan or click the OR to register.



The Friendship Committee will meet to organize the groups. Dinners are being planned for September, October, or November. IDEAS: host a potluck dinner, meet at a restaurant, or have an appetizer meal. For additional information or to sign up, please contact Kathy Burcham at

kathleenburcham@sbcglobal.net

St. Louis Metro Area Crop Hunger Walk

Sunday, September 28 | 2-3pm | 475 E. Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves, MO This year's Crop Hunger Walk is at Eden Seminary in lovely Webster Groves.

Registration begins at 1:30pm and step-off for the walk is at 2pm. Do not worry if you don't want to walk. You can gather that day, volunteer to help us or join Parkway's team and donate online. Click or scan the QR code to register. The money raised goes to local partners and around the world through Church World Service. For more info, contact Sue Moellering susiegslp@sbcglobal.net



August 2025 Alzheimer's News

There are a lot of non-visible or hidden disabilities. Some of these conditions or chronic illnesses are not immediately obvious to others. For some people, this can make it hard to understand and believe that someone, with a "nonvisible" condition genuinely needs support. Some people question whether you have a disability because you do not look "like you have a disability." That is why the Alzheimer's Association created the "Hidden Disabilities Sunflower" – to encourage inclusivity, acceptance and understanding. It is a simple tool for you to share that you have a hidden disability voluntarily. Simply by wearing the Sunflower, you are just letting everyone know that you might need extra help, understanding or just more time. Without a visual cue. it can be difficult for others to identify, acknowledge, or understand the daily barriers faced by people living with an invisible disability. We searched for a discreet sign that is clearly visible from a distance as well as being distinctive, joyful, and dynamic. We chose a sunflower as it suggests happiness, positivity, strength as well as growth and confidence and is universally known. Since its launch in 2016, businesses from every sector have been joining the global Sunflower network-ranging from retail, travel and tourism, transport including over 300 airports-as well as railway networks, coach and bus services and ferries, education, healthcare, central and local government agencies to football teams, theme parks, theaters, and financial institutions. The Sunflower has now been launched in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Latin America, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the UK the UAE and the USA. Find out where it is known near you by going to hdsunflower.com/us/find-the-sunflower.

For more details on current and future Alzheimer's research, visit alz.org/Research You can learn more by going to **www.alz.org/help-support/resources** or the Alzheimer's Helpline which is accessible 24/7 via 800-272-3900 and staffed by master's level clinicians to assist with crisis situations, decision making, and disease information. Tools and support are also available in Spanish.

Want to learn more about the Alzheimer's Association and what they do here in St. Louis? Visit **www.alz.org** and/or contact PUCC's Faith Outreach Ambassador with the Alzheimer's Association, Joyce Ruiz at **joyceruiz7@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

Dear PUCC Family

Thank you so much for your generous gift. I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and support as I begin this new chapter! Your kindness means a lot to me, and your gifts will be a great help to me moving forward! Thank you!

Sumer Lyons, 4th grade teacher, Liberty School District, Missouri

Back To School Word Scramble

apakkcbc oboks

iucotdnae tnigriw

okeootbn coohsl

lyrabri nedfris

esdstnut cheater

Prayer List Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Celebrations

Rick - in remission after stem cell treatments (Laura Waite's father). **Jessica Connors** - just certified as OT assistant; new job starts now! **Gerry & Mike Rogers** - Alvaro is here from Argentina for semester.

Concerns

Nancy Litzinger - healing at home after complicated heart surgery.
Ruth Peace - in and out of the hospital last week; now feeling stronger.
Ashley & James Milam Family - grief/gratitude for her grandfather https://www.baue.com/obituaries/edward-viehmann
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.
Cathy and Rick Hasler - her healing; his surgery 8/14.
Elaine - healing after cancer surgery (Melanie Muchnick's mom).
Ron Mudica - receiving hospice care; stage 4 cancer (Akers).
Violence across the United States.
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. **Paige Penico and Family** - as they grieve and give thanks for Steve.

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

Continuing

Judy Brueggemann - new health challenges (Brad's mother). **Richard** - treatments for congestive heart failure (Greg Schmelig's dad). **Tina** -healing after hospitalization (stepmom of Dawn Jones-Goldstein). **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 [hirthdate: October 36]

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.

Love Brought Me Back

Kaji Douša

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. - Galatians 6:2 (NRSV)

If you were to ask me what I thought was the hardest moment in someone's life, I might guess one of the dramatic parts—the ones you could write a movie about. But sometimes, it's not the drama. Sometimes, it's the quiet ache of staying.

I talked to someone recently who said the worst moment of their life wasn't a sudden tragedy. It was living beside the person they loved while watching them refuse the medically prescribed treatment. For them, it meant watching the other suffer and, eventually, knowing there's nothing more to be done. They said, "I couldn't figure out how to bear it."

I've heard that same heartbreak from someone else too, only this time, it was their child.

You don't get to walk away from either kind of love. It's the kind that brings you back—even when it's hard. Especially when it's hard. Not for abuse, to be clear, but for the companioning God asks.

It's the kind of love that Jesus models: not sentimental, not soft, but fierce in its presence. It shows up. It doesn't disappear when the diagnosis comes or when the person you're caring for can't say thank you. This kind of love bears burdens that don't have timelines or tidy endings.

It's not easy. But it is sacred.

So, if you're in that season right now—where love has brought you somewhere you didn't expect to be, somewhere heavy—know this: God's love is bearing you, too.

Prayer

Love should've and does bring me back, again and again, even when I can't see how to get there. God, grant me to be present in the way my heart can bear, by your grace. Amen.

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

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



SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR

PUCC Family, save the date for next year's Youth Mission Trip Experience! We're going to plan to do **Sunday**, **July 19-Thursday**, **July 23**, **2026**, and we're going to plan to stay local again. Saint Louis, you best be ready for us! And get ready for the best mission trip yet! If you have any ideas for next year, please contact Gabriel at **gabriel@parkwayucc.org**. Be blessed!







