



www.parkwayucc.org

August 24, 2025

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

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

Congregational Statement

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

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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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 Sue and Charles Moellering in honor of their 58th anniversary.

Treats after worship considering 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

8/26 Summer Lyons

8/27 Kelly Shelton Lawson

8/27 Helen Race

8/28 Lauren Yakel

8/29 Mike Stolze

8/30 Naomi Runtz

Anniversaries

8/24 Carol & John Russell

8/26 Douglas & Valerie Detjen

8/29 Carol & Harold Cobb

11th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, August 24, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Prelude *Prelude for the Well-Tempered Clavier in G* by J.S. Bach

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Whence comes this idea that if what we are doing is fun, it can't be God's will? The God who made giraffes, a baby's fingernails, a puppy's tail, a crook necked squash, the bobwhite's call, and a young child's giggle, has a sense of humor. Make no mistake about that. ~Catherine Marshall

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 *You Are Welcome Here*

You are wel - come here... no mat-ter
who you are...
no mat - ter where you are... on life's
jour - ney... You are wel - come here...
no mat - ter who you are... come and
join with us... in our U -
ni - ted Church of Christ...

Scripture Jeremiah 1:4-10 | Common English Bible

The Lord’s word came to me:
“Before I created you in the womb I knew you;
before you were born I set you apart;
I made you a prophet to the nations.”
“Ah, Lord God,” I said, “I don’t know how to speak
because I’m only a child.”
The Lord responded,
“Don’t say, ‘I’m only a child.’
Where I send you, you must go;
what I tell you, you must say.
Don’t be afraid of them,
because I’m with you to rescue you,”
declares the Lord.
Then the Lord stretched out their hand,
touched my mouth, and said to me,
“I’m putting my words in your mouth.
This very day I appoint you over nations and empires,
to dig up and pull down,
to destroy and demolish,
to build and plant.”

***Call to Worship**

One:	The Spirit of God is upon us - calling us to bring good news wherever we go - just like it did for Jesus.
Many:	We are sent to proclaim release for the captives, and recovery of sight for all who long to see.
One:	Before we were born, God’s Spirit knew us. Before we drew breath, the Spirit consecrated us for this work of love.
Many:	Though we may feel too young, too old, too small, too unsure - God places words in our mouths and courage in our hearts.
One:	Today the scripture is fulfilled in our hearing. Today God’s justice and grace take root in us and will continue to grow.
Many:	Come, let us worship the One who calls, equips, and sends us.
One:	Come, Spirit of the Living God, make us bold for love.
All:	Let us worship our God together - Creator, Christ and Spirit.

***Song** #525—Here I Am, Lord | Red Hymnal



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My peo-ple cry.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My peo-ple's pain.
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in deep-est sin My hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them, They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.



I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain
Unison*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard You call-ing in the night I will



go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your



peo - ple in my heart.

***Opening Prayer** Cheryl Lindsay

God of the Sabbath, you make this day holy. As we gather in your name, turn us around when our focus wanders and draw us back to you. Let your wisdom, justice, and compassion guide us. Slow our pace to attend to those things that matter. Open our understanding to the good that needs to be done. Sustain us for the challenges we face.

Holy One, we confess that we sometimes trample the sabbath. We say your name but don't live your ways of love. We cling to excuses to avoid discomfort or sacrifice in service of our neighbor. We turn from human suffering. We keep silent in the face of wickedness. Transform us, O God, that we might be saved from the lure of inaction. Rebuild us with energy and hope as we recommit to building your kingdom near and far. 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 *The Farmer Plants the Seeds*

The farmer plants the seeds,

The farmer plants the seeds,

They grow up strong and spread around,

With lots of grain to feed!

Scripture Luke 4:16-21 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because I have been anointed
to bring good news to the poor.

God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
 and recovery of sight to the blind,
 to set free those who are oppressed,
 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.
 The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to
 them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer #2215—Cares Chorus | [Blue Songbook](#)

I cast all my cares up-on you, I
 lay all of my bur-dens down at your feet, and
 an-y-time that I don't know what to do, I will
 cast all my cares up-on you.

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 *Gospel Chord Interlude*

*Response *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me;

let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we.

Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment now.

With ev - ery step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow:

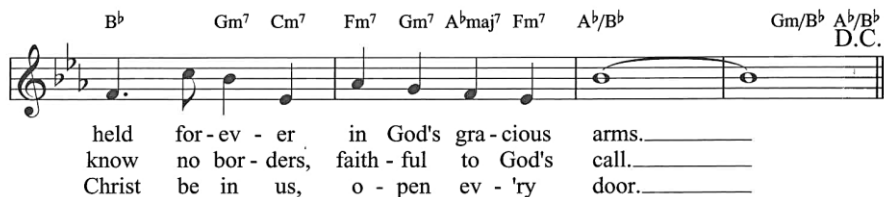
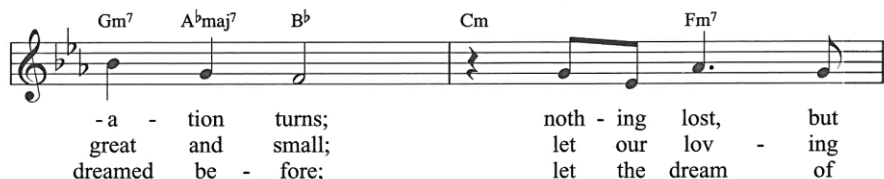
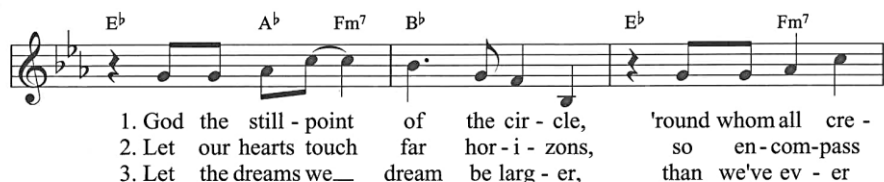
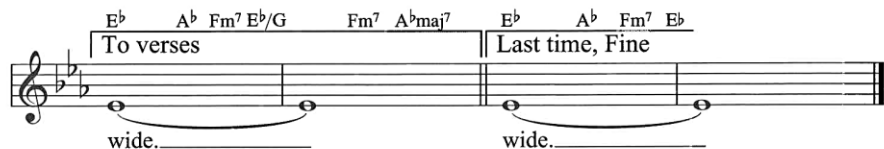
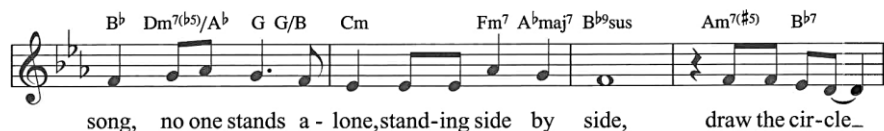
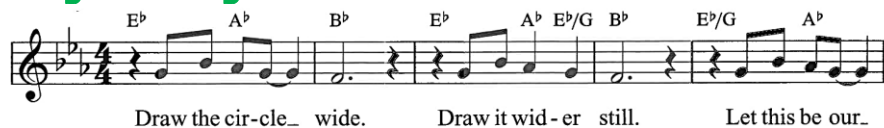
to take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

*Prayer of Dedication *Cheryl Lindsay*

Holy One, You are gracious and generous - which is what we strive to be. Receive these gifts in faith and trust. Help us to be good stewards of the resources You have given to us and bless our loving intentions as we see our neighbors, spread the good news, enact justice, seek right living and exude hope. Amen.

*Song of Parting *Draw the Circle Wide*



*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth *The God of Abraham Praise*

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

Nico Lang - American Teenager How Trans Kids Are Surviving Hate and Finding Joy in a Turbulent Era

Presented by Left Bank Books, Left Bank Books Foundation, & PFLAG Greater St. Louis

TODAY | 4pm | 399 N Euclid Ave, STL, MO

Join Left Bank Books as they welcome Nico Lang, a nonbinary award-winning journalist with over a decade of experience covering the transgender community's fight for equality. They are thrilled to have Nico join them to discuss trans joy! Highly praised, *American Teenager* is a vivid and moving portrait of eight trans and nonbinary teenagers across the country, following their daily triumphs, struggles, and all that encompasses growing up trans in America today. Click or scan QR code to register.



Tuesday Evening Dialogue

2nd and 4th Tuesdays | 6-8pm | Heritage Room

Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731; Passcode: 792617

Please join us at TED for friendship and lively book discussions. Our new book is *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. It is an emotional, rousing novel inspired by the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America. We will be discussing the first 100 pages on **August 26**.

We read a variety of books in TED related to social justice, spirituality, different faiths, history, relationships, current events and nature. We also may choose some random books just for fun. Most books take three sessions to complete. Newcomers are always welcome!

Bring a dish to share for the potluck & join us for our next conversation! For questions, please contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net.

Parkway Inquirers Getting to Know PUCC—and Being Known

Tuesday, August 26 | 6:30-7:45pm | Kevin's Office

Inquirer: someone who wants to know more about Parkway UCC. The next PARKWAY UCC Inquirers' Gathering will be a dessert night this 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

Join the PUCC Adventurers for a St. Louis Public Library Tour

Thursday, August 28 | 10am-2pm | 1301 Olive Street, St. Louis, MO 63103

Meet some Parkway UCC friends as we go on a guided tour of the beautiful, historic St. Louis Public Library. We'll start the guided tour and finish with lunch at a nearby restaurant, TBD. Meet at church at 9:15am for carpooling, or at the library at 10am. Please join us! The RSVP date has passed but you're welcome to still contact Kris McKenzie, **kmck57@yahoo.com**.

St. Louis Public Library's Central Library boasts some of the finest examples of Beaux-Arts and Neo-Classical Architecture in the United States. Designed by renowned architect Cass Gilbert and completed in 1912, the structure which occupies a full city block is a historic treasure. Exquisite replicas of features from the Pantheon, Vatican and Michelangelo's Laurentian Library bring the Italian Renaissance to life in the heart of downtown St. Louis. Among the many amazing treasures featured throughout Central Library are the thirty decorative shields bearing the "Printers' Devices" or marks of some of history's most famous printers carved on the building's stone exterior. An extensive \$70 million award-winning renovation of Central Library led by George Nikolajevich with Cannon Design was completed in 2012, and showcases a masterful blend of classical and modern architectural styles while preserving Central Library's unparalleled beauty for generations to come.

BBQ For Ben PUCC Carnival Picnic

Sunday, August 31 | 11:15am | Fellowship Hall

VBS is going to be capped off with a carnival picnic! After worship on Sunday, August 31, we'll have a BBQ. The church will cover the hot dogs and sloppy joes, fun carnival games, a chicken petting zoo, and an ice cream truck.

We will need people to help with set up and tear down, and food prep. We've set up a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space to sign up for side dishes and dessert. You can also scan or click the QR code.



So, if you're able to help, please contact me at gabriel@parkwayucc.org

August LGBTQ+ News Thoughts on ONA National Gathering

Deb Reinhardt

If not now, when? That was the question I asked myself this spring while debating whether I should attend the ONA (Open & Affirming) National Gathering in July ahead of General Synod 35. It was an energizing two days.

I was honored to be among 130 people from across the country who came to hear moving speeches, participate in educational workshops and fellowship with new (and familiar) friends over two days.

Through all of it, a very clear call to action emerged: Do Something. For me, a comment by R Ward (they/them), Minister of Gender & Sexuality Justice for the UCC, expressed during the Lived Experience Panel summed it up. "I don't want an ally. I want an accomplice," they said. Mx Ward went on to say people of the church need to ask trans/queer people what they need and "get in the trenches," and given the heavy applause that followed, the room was behind their call to action.

In fact, a new initiative introduced by Rev. Derek Terry, acting executive director for the ONA Coalition, is called A.C.T. Out and it stands for Advocacy • Community • Transformation. While the UCC celebrates 40 years of open & affirming covenants and work, as well as nearly 2,000 ONA churches, A.C.T. Out is the next chapter of the movement, Rev. Terry said, and it will require churches to move beyond safe statements and symbolic gestures.

"Every church can do something," Rev. Terry said in addressing the Synod. "Because silence is not safety. Neutrality is not love. The church must not be a bystander. We must be a sanctuary." Hear the entire address by clicking or scanning the QR code.



As a member of PUCC's ONA Team, I've signed up to get more information on this initiative that will include trainings, tool kits and campaigns. I'm thankful for the work PUCC already has done, including providing a safe place for PROMO Missouri to base its canvassing in support of affirming healthcare.

But we have much more to do, and I ask that you keep your ONA Team, Gateway ONA, the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance, and the ONA Coalition in your prayers as we all work together to make our community a more loving and equitable place to live. Because if not now, when?

Respect MO Voters

Shortly after Labor Day we'll start collecting signatures for Respect MO Voters. It's a cross partisan, volunteer group dedicated to getting an amendment on the MO ballot 11/26. This amendment will prohibit the legislature from undoing the will of the majority of voters, as was done after the 11/24 vote. This was also done in the past regarding puppy mills, clean Missouri, and several other issues the citizens of MO voted for. It was also tried in the 80s when democrats were in the majority. This is why it's cross partisan. Whichever side of the aisle you identify with, the majority will of the people should prevail.

Please stop by our table in the gathering space before or after Sunday services. Take some information about the group, consider joining the movement, and sign the petition. For more info, contact Michelle Singer

mrsinger71@gmail.com

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

1st & 3rd Tuesday | 1:45pm fellowship | 2:00-3:00pm discussion

Zoom Link (312) 626-6799; Meeting ID: 836 7061 7428; Passcode: 480007

Please join Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue, TAD, for our next book starting **Tuesday, September 2** - *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. Rachel Held Evans was a progressive Christian writer, blogger, and speaker known for challenging conservative evangelical beliefs and advocating for women and LGBTQ+ rights within Christianity. Her writing explored a more inclusive and questioning approach to faith.

From the book jacket, "Drawing on the best in recent scholarship and using her well-honed literary expertise, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, soliloquies, and even a short screenplay. Undaunted by the Bible's most difficult passages, Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries." Please join us for fellowship and discussion. We'd love to have you! Fellowship starts at 1:45pm and book discussion is from 2-3 pm.

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 QR 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

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

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

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

Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone

Monday, September 22 | 4-6pm | 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.

We can arrange a phone call or Zoom for another time if you'd like. Just reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Wednesday, September 24 | 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!

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

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, or go to **www.crophungerwalk/saintlouismo.org** and add Parkway UCC to the upper right search bar. The money raised goes to local partners and around the world through Church World Service. For more info, contact Sue Moellering **susieqslp@sbcglobal.net**



Looking for another way to support immigrants and refugees?

Jennifer Owens founded the Forai initiative 16 years ago. Forai, Inc., partners with local refugee and immigrant women to enable the realization of economic, educational, and social goals through training and peer support, and by expanding market opportunities for artisans to help refugee women develop/monetize skills by making items to sell - mostly jewelry and sewn items. The faith-based, Christian 501(c)3 organization recently opened a store in Kirkwood at 211 S. Kirkwood Road. For further info, feel free to email Lisa Mason, **lmason624@sbcglobal.net**

PUCC SCAM ALERT

Important Notice: We understand that a fresh batch of scam/phish messages are being sent to PUCCers. Ugh! No staff member of Parkway United Church of Christ will ever reach out via email, text or social media to ask for financial help. If you receive a request appearing to be from PUCC staff requesting financial help or other personal information – or any suspicious message – please don't click on any links or engage with the sender. You may want to report this to your email service provider or the appropriate social media service. Block texts from scammers/phishers. Also, keep your antivirus/anti-malware software up to date for protection. Questions? Concerns? Need clarification? Reach out to our staff via **contact@parkwayucc.org** or 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.

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 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

UCC General Synod Resolutions Receive - Discern - Act

Our Parkway UCC Church Council acknowledges and appreciates that General Synod, the biennial meeting of our United Church of Christ, makes pronouncements and resolutions that speak to the churches, not for the churches. Acting in both covenant and autonomy, our PUCC Council receives the following ten resolutions (one is from 2023 and the rest from 2025) and will discern what to do with them in our setting. Please consider reading through the resolutions. Click or scan QR code for a link to the full information on each resolution. Stay tuned for more information on how you might be part of this important process.



Denouncing the Dobbs Decision and Proclaiming Abortion as Healthcare

This resolution from General Synod 2023 declares that abortion and contraception are essential healthcare. It affirms reproductive choice as a sacred right, condemns abortion bans, and supports peaceful resistance and legal challenges to restrictive laws. <https://uccresolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Abortion-as-Healthcare-Plenary-Final.pdf>

A Declaration of Support for Philippine Human Rights

This resolution declares support of the US House bill HR1433 that states no federal funds may be used to assist the police or the military of the Philippines until the Philippines government has taken certain actions insuring standards of human rights are upheld.

Faithful Stewardship of Our Whole Lives and Advocacy for Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Faith Communities Through Interfaith Collaboration

This resolution lifts up the need to continue the UCC's faithful stewardship of the Our Whole Lives ministry, which provides training and resources to embrace the diversity of God's creation, a framework to view bodies and relationships as sacred, and information about bodies and relationships as helpful, not harmful.

Recognition of the Continually-Evolving Language of Mental Health

This resolution urges the UCC to update language regarding those living with mental health experiences and neurodiversity in a way that reduces stigma and encourages inclusivity.

A Response to Christian Persecution in India

This resolution gives voice to the plight of Christians and Muslims who have been persecuted by the Hindu Nationalist movement and bears witness to the violence inflicted on churches and individuals in an attempt to suppress their voice.

Responding to the Federal Government's Attack on Immigrants, Migrants, and Refugees

This resolution denounces the federal government's mass detention and deportation campaign, as well as the egregious human violations being committed against those who are being detained and deported.

Calling The United Church of Christ to Oppose the 2025 Immigration Rollbacks and Support Immigrants, Refugees, and Pacific Island Communities, while Amplifying Antiracist Work On Behalf of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in Response to the Current Socio-Political Backlash

This resolution calls on the UCC to strongly oppose current immigration policy and urges the Church to support and protect immigrant communities, many of whom face heightened threats of deportation, family separation, and the dismantling of long-standing protections under US and international law. This resolution also aims to enhance the Church's antiracist efforts on behalf of immigrants, refugees, and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

In Support of Restoration of Full Funding for the United States Agency for International Development

This resolution calls for the restoration of funding and staffing to restore USAID to full capacity, noting that reductions to the agency this year have and will harm humanitarian and development efforts and end lives.

In Support of Restoration of Full Funding and Autonomy for the Voice of America

This resolution is in support of VOA, an organization that has provided news and information to countries and regions, particularly where state-controlled media may limit access to diverse perspectives.

Declaration for an End to Genocide in Palestine

This resolution denounces the actions of the State of Israel in partnership with the United States government which in sum amount to genocide against the Palestinian people. It denounces the targeted killing of civilians, including children, medical workers, and journalists in Gaza.

Prayer List

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Celebrations

Students, families, teachers, admins, staff - back to school.

Gerry & Mike Rogers - Alvaro is here from Argentina for semester.

Concerns

Carol & Harold Cobb - healing after her hip replacement surgery.

Nancy & Jack Litzinger - healing after complicated her heart surgery.

Janie Pillai's mother as she recuperates from hip surgery.

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 complications after knee surgery.

Cathy and Rick Hasler - both recuperating from surgery...

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/o3lr25>

Emi - 5 year-old undergoing chemo at Children's Hospital (McConnell).

Elaine - healing after cancer surgery (Melanie Muchnick's mom).

Ron Mudica - receiving hospice care; stage 4 cancer (Akers).

Derek - dying from alcoholism; grace for his father David (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.

Continuing

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).

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).

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.