



www.parkwayucc.org September 14, 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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Joyce Ruiz, Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com]

 $Polly \ Rutherford, \textit{Environmental Justice/Eco Stewards} \ [pollyrutherford@gmail.com]$

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 Michelle Brueggemann.

Flowers given by Ellie Svenson in honor of Kim and Dan Weas' anniversary!

There are a few treats in the Gathering Space as you make your way to the *Town Hall Meeting* in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up to provide treats sometime this autumn.

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

9/15 Barb Harris

9/17 Pam Walker

9/19 Suzie Schulenburg

9/19 Killian Lawson

Anniversaries

9/18 Dan & Kim Weas

9/18 Karla & Pete Shelton 9/20 Louis & Melissa Pounds

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 14, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

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

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Look into your own heart, discover what it is that gives you pain and then refuse, under any circumstance whatsoever, to inflict that pain on anybody else. ~Karen Armstrong

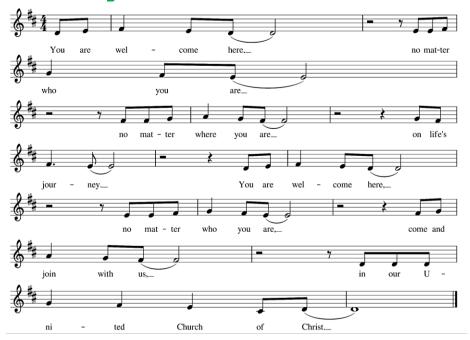
Passing the Peace of Christ

"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



Scripture Luke 15:1-10 | Common English Bible

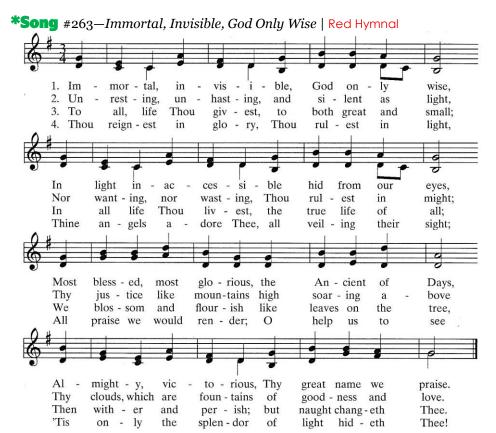
All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders. When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.

"Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it? When she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

*Call to Worship

| One: | Come, beloved community, each one of the whole, for God has prepared a place and a welcome for you. |
|-------|---|
| Many: | God welcomes the seekers, the wanderers, and the found. |
| One: | Like a shepherd who searches for the one who is lost, |
| Many: | God will not rest until all are gathered in. |
| One: | Like a woman who rejoices over her recovered treasure, |
| Many: | God delights in restoring what was broken and forgotten. |
| One: | No matter where we have been, no matter what we have done, |
| Many: | We are God's beloved - sought, found, and celebrated! |
| One: | Come, let us worship the One who never stops searching - |
| Many: | The One whose joy overflows when any one is brought home. |
| All: | Let us worship our God together - Creator, Christ and Spirit. |



***Opening Prayer**

Gracious and loving God, you are the One who never gives up on us - the shepherd who searches the hills, the woman who sweeps every corner, the parent who runs to embrace us when we return. When we feel lost, remind us we are never beyond your reach. When we feel forgotten, whisper again that we are your beloved. And when others are missing from our circle, move us to seek them with your compassion, so that all may know they are part of your/our family. Gather us now in your presence. Open our hearts to your grace, our ears to your truth, and our hands to your work of love in the world. Convict us to be the people who welcome others home. 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 2nd grade will then go to Room 12, children from 3rd to 5th grade will go to Room 13, 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 This Little Light of Mine This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

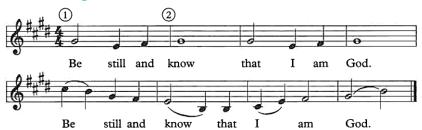
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Scripture 1 Timothy 1:12-17 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer #2057—Be Still and Know That I Am God | Blue Songbook



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

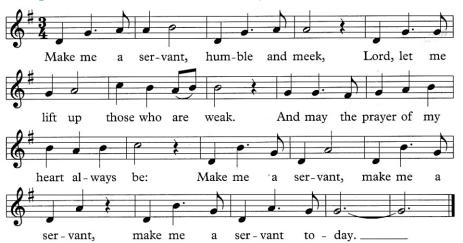


If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the stand next to the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offering Interlude *Improvisation on Take O Take Me As I Am* by John Bell

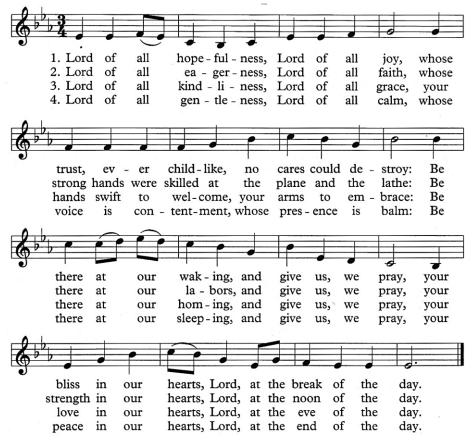
*Response #2176—Make Me A Servant | Blue Songbook



*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, we know that we have not always gotten it right, and yet you continue to call us, equip us, and trust us to share your love. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and as seeds of your transforming work in the world. Through them, may hope be kindled, justice be nurtured, and compassion be made visible. With hearts full of thanksgiving, we dedicate not just these offerings, but also our lives, to be grace that overflows beyond understanding and beyond measure. Amen.

*Song of Parting #2197—Lord of All Hopefulness | Blue Songbook



*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth "Breath" by Traditional, a local hip-hop/rap artist Traditional (Arranged for organ with permission)

Prayer Partner Before and After Worship this Sunday

PUCCer Lynn Mark is available in the front left corner of the sanctuary after worship today to pray confidentially with individuals. She is a trained prayer chaplain. She will call on the presence of God and help create a safe spiritual space. Lynn will listen to you as you tell her a bit about your prayer request. She will offer an affirmative prayer out loud, reminding you of your inner strengths rather than ask God for a specific outcome. She will pray that you are guided by God's infinite love, presence and support... and that any joy or gratitude will be multiplied and any fear or doubt will be transformed into peace and confidence.

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**

Town Hall 2025

TODAY | 11:15am | Fellowship Hall

Please join Council for a light lunch and conversation following worship. Our Goal Writing Team is ready to write the next set of goals and we need input from the congregation. This is an opportunity to share a meal, while talking with a Council member and fellow PUCCers. Council would love to hear your joys, concerns and dreams about our life in this church. Please join us for an hour of good food and conversation. We ask that parishioners bring a simple dessert to share. For more info, speak with Lana Biondo.

Fall Friendship Dinners Sign up by TODAY

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 today,

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

Virtual Program Living Well With Pain

Monday, September 15 | 6:30pm | Virtual

Learn practical strategies to manage arthritis pain and improve your quality of life with expert insights from Dr. Kim Carroll. Adults. Registration required at **slcl.org/events**. A recording of this virtual program will be posted to YouTube within three business days.

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 discussion of the middle third of the book *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans, pages 81 - 164. 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 1:45 pm and the book discussion is from 2-3pm. For more info, please contact **jeiffert2@gmail.com**

Join the Adventurers for a Planning Brunch

Wednesday, September 17 | 9:30-11:30am | 11692 Manchester Road Please join the Adventurers as we meet for brunch (Dutch treat) at Sunny Street Cafe in Des Peres. We'll be doing some planning for the upcoming year. Bring your ideas for places the group can go on our monthly outings. Is there a place that you'd really like to show people? We'd love for you to organize the outing, and we'll be glad to help out. Please come join us and meet some PUCCers. RSVP by September 16 to Jackie Eiffert, jeiffert2@gmail.com

Also, SAVE THE DATE: Parkway Adventurers go to Kitchen Conservatory

Wednesday, November 19 | 11am-1:30pm | 9011 Manchester Rd Parkway Adventurers can enjoy a Plymouth Thanksgiving Meal and Demonstration at The Kitchen Conservatory. Enjoy a Thanksgiving-inspired meal, as Audrey Scherrer prepares a velvety pureed carrot soup topped with ginger raisin chutney, pan-seared and roasted chicken used in a flavorful chicken salad with the drippings, topped with a red wine vinaigrette and fresh croutons served with a crisp white wine, plus caramelized honey pumpkin pie with fresh whipped cream. There are only 16 available seats. The cost is \$55 a person. Please register and pay online with Parkway's One Church, or by clicking or scanning the OR code, as soon as possible, as there is a 16-person limit.

AWOL—Adventurous Women Out Late

Come build relationships with other PUCCers.

Ouestions- Carol Cobb ccicobb@aol.com

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 Downton Abbey! We will attend the 2pm showing at the Marcus Theatre in Des Peres. RSVP deadline has passed, but reach out to see if we can secure any additional tickets.



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

Intertwine: Elsie Roth - Blessings of Belonging

Saturday, September 20 | 6:30-8pm | Parkway United Church of Christ At 96 years old, Shaare Emeth member, author, and nurse, Elsie Roth continues to inspire with her lifelong commitment to truth, civility, and compassion.

This evening, Elsie will share the remarkable story of how she helped secure the long-overdue Medal of Honor for her father and for Sgt. Johnson—two WWI heroes denied recognition for decades because of antisemitism and racism. Come be moved by Elsie's story of perseverance, justice, and hope.

Intertwine is a joint program between Parkway United Church of Christ, our Muslim friends from The Turkish American Society of Missouri, and our Jewish friends at Congregation Shaare Emeth.



Kosher and Halal refreshments will be served!

RSVP by September 17 by clicking or scanning QR code. If you have questions, please email Debbie Bram at **dbram@sestl.org**

Future Intertwine dates:

Thursday, November 20 - Thanksgiving Dinner with TASOM individuals' stories of exile and arrival in the US

Saturday evening, January 17 - *Speed Faithing* experience ... and soupfest. Saturday evening, February 21 - Interfaith Iftar (Ramadan)

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am

"Hand Me Down Music," by Cindy Nouri and Rich Race. Sunday, September 21 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Do you remember a melody or jingle or rhyme that makes you feel happy? Have you ever wanted to play an instrument? Cynthia Nouri and Rich Race will present "Hand Me Down Music" where they will play and discuss the social origins and popularity of folk and old time music.

All programs start after worship service at approximately 11:15 AM in the Heritage Room. For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**

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.

Upcoming dates: Weds, Oct 29 from 7-9am Thu, Nov 13 from 6-8pm

Tue, Dec 9 from 8-10am Sat, Jan 10 from 7-9am

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

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 current 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 Chapters 11 through the end of the book at our next session on **Sept 23**.

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 or four 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.**

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! Upcoming dates:

Mon, Oct 20 at 10am; Wed, Nov 19 at 10am; Fri, Dec 12 at 10am; Mon, Jan 12 at 2pm

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

PUCCer Elia Penico is Rizzo in Grease at SEMO

Saturday, September 27

Take a day trip with us to *Southeast Missouri State University* to see Ella in *Grease*. We will carpool from church at 10am, have lunch in Cape Girardeau and enjoy Grease at 2pm. Scan or click QR code for ticket details. After the show, we will greet Ella and her mother Paige and then return to St Louis – maybe stop for a treat en route!? It's a 2-hour drive to Cape Girardeau, so we estimate being by



It's a 2-hour drive to Cape Girardeau, so we estimate being back to PUCC by 6pm. Questions? Contact **kevin@parkwayucc.org**

Next Youth Event - Aloha Mini Golf!

Saturday, September 27 | 3pm | 13502 Big Bend Rd, Valley Park, MO 63122 Get ready to hit the links for our next youth event at Aloha Mini Golf! They've got a new course, some tasty snow cones, and some even better fun. Hope your kids can come! Any questions, contact Gabriel at

gabriel@parkwayucc.org

Align with PUCC! New Member Sunday

Sunday, September 28

Our church family is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, new opportunities. It is with joy and gratitude that we welcome new members into our worship, work and witness at Parkway UCC - in person or virtually. Membership at Parkway UCC could be the next step in your ongoing relationship with God and with other people of faith though membership is not expected and certainly isn't necessary to be involved in worship, baptism, communion, weddings, funerals or other aspects of church life. As a church member, you have the opportunity to more intentionally grow personally, find a sense of belonging, form lifelong friendships, experience the joy of Christ, discover your spiritual gifts, become more intimate with God, develop your personal prayer style, expand your boundaries, become more Christ-like and more. With our congregational democratic polity, as a church member, you have a voice and vote within our church to weigh in on topics such as the annual budget, church vision, building decisions and more. If this is something you might be interested in, please let us know by talking with kevin@parkwayucc.org

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** and add Parkway UCC to the upper right search bar. The money raised goes to local partners and around the world through Church World Se



local partners and around the world through Church World Service. For more info, contact Sue Moellering **susieqslp@sbcglobal.net**

September 2025 Alzheimer's News

A recent study found decades old lead pollution was linked to memory problems in older adults. The study conducted of more that 600,000 adults linked early-life environmental lead exposure to memory problems later in life. People who grew up in areas with moderate to extremely high atmospheric lead level from 1960-1974 were 20% more likely to report memory problems as adults 50 years later. It is believed that lead exposure may leave a lasting molecular imprint on the brain, making it more vulnerable to age-related diseases, including Alzheimer disease.

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**. And remember, the Walk To End Alzheimer's is October 25, 2025 at the Chesterfield Amphitheater. Please register on-line at **www.alz.org**.

Hey! Hay! Youth Hayride and Smores Fall Fun at Queeny Park

Saturday, October 11 | 6-9pm | Queeny Park

Calling all middle schoolers and high schoolers! Ask a friend to join us for this autumn adventure. We will meet at church, gather up some chairs and smores ingredients and head to Queeny Park for a 45-minute hayride and an hour around a private fire. We will be back to church around 9pm. For more info, contact Kevin Cameron at **kevin@parkwayucc.org**

"Rainbow of Talent" A Coffeehouse Event

Sunday, October 12 | 3-5pm | 5007 Waterman Blvd
Are you a musician, vocalist, poet, writer, or actor? You're invited to
participate in an open mic for the LGBTQ+ community to celebrate National
LGBTQ+ History Month. The event is at First Unitarian
Church of St. Louis. We're creating a space to celebrate
LGBTQ+ history and creativity! If you're interested in being a
part of this ALL-AGES coffeehouse performance, Click or
scan QR code to register.

For more info, contact Debbie Reinhardt or the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance at **deborahreinhardt@att.net**

Join the VisionWalk Team!

Saturday, October 18 | 9am | Creve Coeur Park, St. Louis, MO Join us for a family-friendly walk, resource fair, and activities for all ages. Togther, we're advancing the fight against blinding diseases and building a brighter future, one step at a time. 9am registration. 10:30am walk begins. Let's cure blinding retinal degenerative diseases together!

Please join PUCC's VisionWalk team, the Believers, or make a donation to the Foundation Fighting Blindness and help us save and restore sight to the 10 million Americans living in darkness. Scan or click the QR code.

The team is walking in support of someone very dear to us with a blinding eye disease. We hope that you will support the team by making a donation and joining them at VisionWalk!

Join the fight and help us accelerate our mission! For more info, please contact Jo Grove **jogrove08@gmail.com**

SAVE THE DATE Trunk or Treat

The 2025 Trunk or Treat is **Saturday**, **October 18** from 5 -7 pm. Save the date for this fun-filled event! Volunteer & Candy sign-ups will start September 21. Please join us! If you can help out, contact Karen Mariani **ksmariani59@gmail.com**

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Respect MO Voters

We will 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 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

PUCC Shirts Available for Sale!

Show your church spirit and spread a little love wherever you go! Our new church t-shirts are comfortable, soft, and perfect for everything from Sunday worship to community events. They feature our church name/logo so you can wear your faith out loud. Shirts are just \$15 each in a variety of sizes. Click or scan QR code to purchase your PUCC shirt today!



For any questions, contact Gabriel gabriel@parkwayucc.org

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

Prayer List Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Celebrations

Jean Mueller - moved to Cape Albeon in Valley Park last weekend. **Pat Owens** - moving within *Mason Pointe Senior Living Community*. **Doug and Amy Yakel** - as he retires mid-September.

Concerns

Cindy Changyit Levin and family as they grieve/give thanks for her mother - *Dr. Lazette Bevers Chang-Yit Nichols*

Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis in grief. Aftermath of earthquakes in Afghanistan. Ongoing chaos and grief in the Middle East. The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia. Our St Louis neighbors after the tornado in May.

Continuing

John & Dottie Dwyer - gaining strength after his heart procedure; PT. Carol & Harold Cobb - healing after her hip replacement surgery. Cathy and Rick Hasler - both recuperating from surgery. Kathy and Bill Hilgeman - her complications after knee surgery. **Janie Pillai's mother** as she recuperates from hip surgery. **Karla Beck** - as her brother seeks care and the family shares peace. **Paige Penico and Family** - as they grieve and give thanks for Steve. **Phil and Amy and daughter B** - as his terminal illness progresses. **Emi** - 5 year-old undergoing chemo at Children's Hospital (McConnell). **Elaine** - healing after cancer surgery (Melanie Muchnick's mom). 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). Mark McKenzie - for healing, clarity, refreshment (Tom's brother). **Ron Mudica** - receiving hospice care; stage 4 cancer (Akers). **Derek** - dying from alcoholism; grace for his father David (Akers). Kenton & Teal Blacksten - K's many health challenges due to diabetes **Bob Messey** - serious health concerns (Svenson). John Ruiz's oldest brother and wife - healing in Cape Girardeau. John & Nancy Tallyn - his heart condition; her recurring leukemia, etc Renee Pellegrino & family - as she deals with multiple health issues. **Danny Venverlo** - awaiting a kidney transplant (McDougall). Pam and David - divorcing after 55 years of marriage (Akers). **Craig Hoffman** - career Navy officer receiving hospice care (Svenson). **Haack's doctor and his wife Christine** - her ongoing health crisis. **Rebecca Ray** - that her book on suicide prevention will be published. Bill & Nancy Darland - his ongoing health issues. Gail, Bill and Christopher Haack - chronic health challenges.

Home-Centered/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Lewis Junior Burcham - The Glenwood; 1635 N. Baltimore Ave #25;

Mt. Zion, IL 62549; 217-864-1757 [birthday: January 15]

Mildred Hoxie - Sunrise at Bluemont Park, 5900 Wilson Blvd. #253,

Arlington, VA 22205; [birthdate: January 15]

Bill Klein - Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood; 251 Plaza Dr,

#104; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: March 8]

John Nourse *The Village at Cape Albeon*; 3300 Lake Bend Dr, #166; Valley Park, MO 63088 [birthdate: October 26]

Ruth Peace - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-025 meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: August 8]

Naomi Runtz - 272 N Lindbergh Blvd; StL MO 63141; 314-993-0469 naomiruntz@sbcglobal.net [birthdate: August 30]

Glady Sims - Friendship Village - 15200 Village View Dr., #2418;

Chesterfield, MO 63017; 636-898-8873 [birthdate: July 4]

Ellie Svenson - Mason Pointe - 13190 South Outer Forty Rd, #2213;

Town and Country, MO 63017; 314-323-7194 [birthdate: June 19]

Judy Waddell - 13510 Weston Park Dr; STL, MO 63131; 314-369-4885 [birthdate: August 13]

Other

Pres Trump, VP Vance, Congress, all local, national, world leaders. **Our trans siblings** as they deal with harmful state/federal policy plans.

All who depend on USAID programs that have been eliminated.

The "me too" Movement - shining a light on sexual abuse.

All people who live with mental illness & those dealing with meds. Caregivers of all shapes and sizes.

PUCC Family struggling with employment; healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC Gun violence and other violence across the US and other lands.

Conversations about the Death Penalty in the United States.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

Peace and Justice near and far.

US Military around the globe.

Drivers Needed From time to time, PUCCers are in need of rides to medical appts when their usual circle of support is unavailable. Some in our church family also need help getting to worship. Please let kevin@parkwayucc.org know you are willing to help.

Sending the Word Home For your spiritual nourishment during the week.

LAST WEEK in Sunday School

God created the whole universe and called it good (Genesis 1:1-2:4a).

TODAY in Sunday School

After a very long time waiting, the son that God promised is born to Abraham and Sarah: Isaac (Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14).

THE POINT

God can provide even in impossible situations.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

The Book of Genesis is a series of origin stories: stories that tell about beginnings. Creation (the beginning of the world), the flood (the first rainbow), and Israel (the beginning of a nation) are some of the origin stories we read in Genesis. Overall, origin stories help us to understand more about God, people, and the world around us. Origin stories can provide a sense of identity, as the audience connects with its history.

STORY SUMMARY

Abraham was called to follow God to a new land where the people would be blessed (Genesis 12:3). God promised a son to Abraham and Sarah and then fulfilled this promise in their old age. In a confusing twist, God asked Abraham to sacrifice their first and only son. Abraham trusted God and took Isaac to make the sacrifice. Abraham's act of faithful obedience to God's command was enough. God stopped Abraham from killing Isaac and provided a ram to sacrifice in Isaac's place.

PRACTICE: Worship

Worship is any way we show God our love. Abraham's faithful obedience was an act of worship. After God provided a lamb, Abraham worshipped by naming the place, "The Lord Will Provide." As a family, recall a time when God provided for you. Brainstorm and choose a title or special name for that part of your family's "story."

NEXT WEEK in Sunday School

Isaac himself has two sons: Esau and Jacob. Jacob tricked his father into giving him Esau's blessing (Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17).

GOING DEEPER

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? Consider the following basic pattern as a way of forming family devotions:

- Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time." Pray a simple prayer together.
- Take a moment to check in with each other; what are each person's "highs" and "lows" today?
- * Read aloud from the Daily Bible Readings from below. Discuss the questions following each.
- End with a blessing, by simply tracing a cross on each other's forehead. The Lord's Prayer is a good way to end your devotion time. If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotions.

Note: This is only a suggested pattern. It will vary with your household's context and patterns. What works best for you? First thing in the morning? Over breakfast? Bedtime? Be creative and flexible with how you practice and keep your devotions!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY: Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

When Abraham's faith was tested, Abraham trusted God to provide for him. When have you wondered if God would really answer your prayers?

MONDAY: Genesis 24:1-14

Abraham sent his oldest servant to Nahor to find a wife for Isaac. What do you think would be different if you prayed each morning for God to give you success during the day?

TUESDAY: Genesis 24:15-33

Abraham's servant is welcomed by Rebekah and her family. Do you think God has an active role in your casual and close relationships? In what way?

WEDNESDAY: Genesis 24:33-51

Rebekah's family gives the okay for her to go and marry Isaac. How do you know if something is God's will?

THURSDAY: Genesis 24:52-67

Rebekah and Isaac became husband and wife. How do you handle things when you are sure of what you are doing but others interfere and make things difficult?

FRIDAY: Genesis 25:19-28

Isaac and Rebekah had twins: Esau and Jacob. Isaac loved Esau; Rebekah loved Jacob. When does having favorite friends affect relationships with other friends?

SATURDAY: Genesis 25:29-34

Esau gave up his future birthright for a meal. When have you acted on impulse?