



*Give  
Thanks*



**PARKWAY**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



[www.parkwayucc.org](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

November 23, 2025

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## Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

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### 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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# 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 Karen Nolte.

**Treats after worship** provided by the Bumgarner-Cameron Family.



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](http://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](http://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

11/24 Sean Crawford  
11/24 Debbie Reinhardt  
11/26 Richard Lindner  
11/27 Daphne Milam  
11/27 Julie Connors  
11/29 Carol Cobb

## Anniversaries

11/24 Alice & Perrin Stifel  
11/28 Elise & Jeremy Bowman  
11/28 Lisa Davidson & DJ Meyer

# Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 23, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

**Prelude** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

**Welcome** Let us know you are here!

**Meditation** The spirit of the Gospels is the all-inclusive love of Jesus, which jumps off the pages. ~Amos Smith

**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** *We Gather Together*



1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
3. We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou lead - er tri - um - phant,  
He chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known;  
Or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing His king - dom di - vine;  
And pray that Thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.  
The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing,  
So from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
Let Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;  
Sing prais - es to His name; He for - gets not His own.  
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; All glo - ry be Thine!  
Thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

**Scripture** Colossians 1:11-20a | New Revised Standard – Updated Version  
 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from this glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to God, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile with all things, whether on earth or in heaven.

**\*Call to Worship**

One:	In this week of gratitude, we gather to remember that thanksgiving is more than a day - it is a posture of the heart, a practice of justice, and a commitment to love.
Many:	<b>We come with thanks for the God who created all things, who formed the earth that sustains us, and calls us to cherish it and one another with care.</b>
One:	We give thanks for Jesus - teacher, healer, and companion - who shows us that gratitude is expressed through compassion, solidarity, and lifting up those whom the world has overlooks and steps over.
Many:	<b>We come with thanks for the Holy Spirit, moving within and among us, stirring courage, creativity, and hope for a more just and generous world.</b>
One:	Whether we arrive this morning joyful or weary, confident or searching, God welcomes us just as we are.
Many:	<b>With open hearts, open minds, and open hands, we come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of love.</b>
One:	Let us give thanks - not with words alone, but with lives shaped by grace, justice, and belonging.
All:	<b>In gratitude, we worship God - Creator, Christ, and Spirit - and commit ourselves again to the varied and vital works of love.</b>



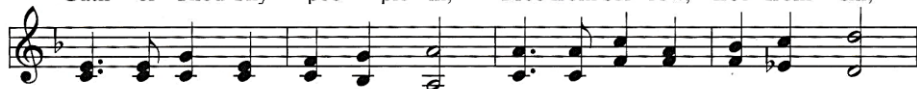
**\*Song** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*



1. Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come, Raise the song of har-vest home:
2. All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to God's praise to yield;
3. For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take the har-vest home;
4. E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har-vest home;



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;  
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown;  
 From each field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way;  
 Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin;



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied:  
 First the blade, and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear:  
 Give the an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
 There for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, Raise the song of har-vest home.  
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.  
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In God's gar - ner ev - er - more.  
 Come, with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har-vest home.

**\*Opening Prayer**

**Come, Spirit of Gratitude, as we gather this day. We give thanks for the earth and its bounty, for neighbors, friends, and strangers alike, for joys and challenges that shape us. Help us remember those in need, and turn our thanksgiving into justice, compassion, and care. Bless our worship time together, that our hearts may overflow with gratitude and our hands with generosity as we reassess and revision how we go from this place into the world. 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade will then go to Room 12, and youth from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> 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 1:67-80 | NRSVUE

Then [John the Baptist's] father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for looking favorably on the people and redeeming them. God has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of child David, as God spoke through the mouth of holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus God has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered the holy covenant, the oath sworn to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve God without fear, in holiness and righteousness in God's presence all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, or you will go before the Lord to prepare the way, to give the people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

**Sermon**

**Mission Moment** *Every Child's Hope*

We receive an annual offering for the important work that has been happening here in St Louis with vulnerable children and families since 1858. It all started when former Parkway UCC Pastor Louis Nollau sheltered a young boy named Henry Sam. The orphanage, originally known as the German Protestant Orphan's Home, was incorporated in 1861 and moved to a farm in St. Louis County in 1866. It has stayed with the times as it has kept to its mission to care for kids of all ages.

In addition to prayers, this congregation founded by German immigrant farmers would fill a pickup truck with bounty from their harvests and nurture the bodies, minds and spirits of the children at ECH. We continue to pray and act on their behalf. Remember the children/teens through the holidays.

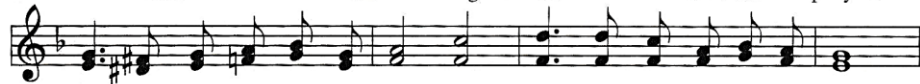
## A Time of Prayer *What A Friend We Have in Jesus*



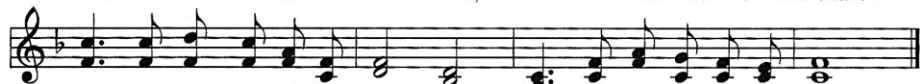
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged: Take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need-less pain we bear,  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful, Who will all our sor-rows share?



All be-cause we do not car - ry Ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev-ery weak - ness; Take it to the Lord in 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.]

### Stewardship Moment

#### 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. 2026 Pledges can be received here as well.

[www.parkwayucc.org/giving](http://www.parkwayucc.org/giving)

**Offering Interlude** Selections from *Holy Song of Thanksgiving of a Convalescent to the Deity, in the Lydian Mode* by Ludwig van Beethoven, transcribed for pipe organ (*Heilige Dankgesang eines Genesenen an die Gottheit, in der Lydischen Tonart*)



**\*Response** #560—*We Plow the Fields and Scatter* | Red Hymnal



1. We plow the fields and scat - ter The good seed on the land,
2. You on - ly are the Mak - er Of all things near and far;
3. We thank You, then, Cre - a - tor, For all things bright and good,



But it is fed and wa - tered By God's al - might - y hand;  
You paint the way-side flow - er, You light the eve - ning star;  
The seed-time and the har - vest, Our life, our health, our food;



God sends the snow in win - ter, The warmth to swell the grain,  
The winds and waves o - bey You, By You the birds are fed;  
Ac - cept the gifts we of - fer, For all Your love im - parts,



The breez-es and the sun - shine, And soft, re - fresh-ing rain.  
Much more to us, Your chil - dren, You give our dai - ly bread.  
And what You most would wel - come, Our hum - ble, thank-ful hearts.

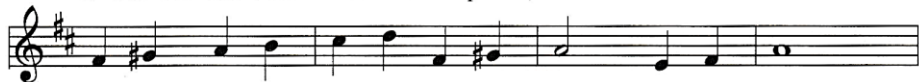
**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, we thank you for the seeds of faith that are our offerings. They fall into the soil and grow into acts of justice, kindness, and hope for all creation. Bless the hands that give and the hearts that receive. May these gifts nourish those who are hungry, bring shelter to those in need, and cultivate communities where everyone is honored and loved. The abundance we share is not just for ourselves, but for the flourishing of the earth, for the strengthening of one another, and for the building of a world rooted in love, equity, and compassion. With gratitude, we dedicate these gifts, and ourselves, to the work of love in all its forms. Amen.

## **\*Song of Parting** *For the Fruit of All Creation*



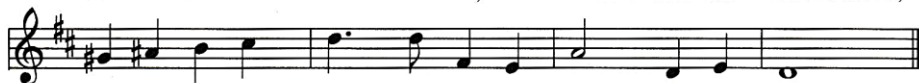
1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
3. For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, Thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will be done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,  
In our world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,  
For the won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.  
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will be done.  
Most of all that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

## **\*Benediction**

## **\*God's Light Goes Forth**

## **\*Music for Going Forth** *Improvisation on Theme(s) from A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*

## **Call all Singers! Rehearsal for Christmas**

We will have our first rehearsal to go over special music for Christmas. Please join us a few minutes after the service today. We will wrap up by noon.

The first practice for *Lessons and Carols* will be during our usual First Sunday Choir rehearsal at 9am on December 7. However, we will sing our song the following Sunday, December 14 during our Lessons and Carols worship service.

Questions? Connect with [amy@parkwayucc.org](mailto:amy@parkwayucc.org)

# Announcements

Please use the form at [www.parkwayucc.org/communications](http://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 [@parkwayuccsfl](https://www.youtube.com/@parkwayuccsfl). There is a subscribe button under the main heading and brief description of our church. Thank you! Questions? Please contact [barbharris@charter.net](mailto:barbharris@charter.net) or [cynthianouri@gmail.com](mailto:cynthianouri@gmail.com)

## Bathroom Announcement

As we continue to live into our commitment as a welcoming Open and Affirming church, the women's restroom to the right of the sanctuary is being modified to become an all-gender restroom. Privacy strips on the stalls will ensure privacy for the comfort of ALL members and guests. The women's restroom was chosen due to the ability to create an appropriate space by implementing a few practical adaptations; the men's room is not currently being altered. Gendered restrooms are still located in the education wing (north hallway) of the building.

## Hanging of the Greens

TODAY | 11:15am-1pm | Parkway UCC

Advent comes early this year and we need to decorate before the first Sunday in Advent – November 30. Join the elves as we set up our glorious Christmas tree, crèche, wreaths, and swags around the sanctuary. Please plan on staying after worship for awhile to help. We need a village as they say. For more info, contact [ccjcoobb@aol.com](mailto:ccjcoobb@aol.com)

## Just Human: Transgender Lives in the 2020s

TODAY | 2pm | 2525 S. Jefferson Ave; St Louis, MO 63104

Anti-trans hostility has grown beyond state legislatures to our national government. Increasingly, oppressive laws and court decisions are being accompanied by threats and violence against the trans community and allies.

*How can a small group of people come together for positive change?*

One way is to use theatre and individual stories of joy and challenge to counter the dehumanizing effects of scapegoating. Jamie Linsin is a clinical psychologist who wrote *Just Human* based on over 30 interviews with transgender persons, their parents, healthcare providers, and advocates.

Please consider experiencing this play by visiting

[purplepass.com/justhuman](http://purplepass.com/justhuman) to RSVP.

## Red Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

There are 15 red poinsettias available to sponsor our long tradition of beautiful poinsettias in the sanctuary two weeks before Christmas.

The plants may be taken home anytime after the 7:30pm Christmas Eve Service. Sign up will be on One Church, or scan/click QR code. The cost is \$10 payable to Parkway UCC by check or in One Church by credit card.

For more info, contact [ccjcoobb@aol.com](mailto:ccjcoobb@aol.com)



## 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 on **November 25**. 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 at 6pm & join us for our next conversation! For questions, please contact Helen Race at **raceh@att.net**.

## Journey To Bethlehem

November 30 | After an abbreviated worship service | Fellowship Hall

Grab your passport and some Advent spirit and join Mary, Joseph, and Jesus for this year's Journey to Bethlehem! We'll have a variety of different stations filled with crafts, foods, and activities... and did we mention a petting zoo! Really bringing the manger to life. It's sure to be a magical time for all.

Of course, to make this event possible we'll need plenty of help. So, if you can volunteer, please scan or click QR code to sign-up! Contact Gabriel Requadt for more info at **gabriel@parkwayucc.org**



## WORLD AIDS DAY: The History, Present and Future of HIV

Monday, December 1 | 2pm | St Louis County Library – Clark Branch

Free event ~ presented by Dr. Joseph Cherabie. World AIDS Day is a global movement to unite people in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Join us for an engaging discussion on the history of HIV, the current state of research and treatment, and the future of the fight to end the epidemic. Dr. Cherabie is the Medical Director of the St. Louis STI/HIV Prevention Training Center and Clinical Ambassador for the CDC's "Let's Stop HIV Together" campaign. Please register <https://slcl.events.mylibrary.digital/event?id=266464>

## LGBTQ+ news for November

November is Trans Awareness Month, which brings attention to the experiences of the transgender, nonbinary, and gender non-conforming communities. From the United Church of Christ ~ "Our faith teaches us that transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people are beloved children of God. Since January, this community has come under attack by our federal government: banned from serving in the military and fired from positions in the federal government; prohibited from playing on school sports teams; cut off from lifesaving, gender-affirming care."

Recently, the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of our United Church of Christ, joined several other interfaith leaders in a joint statement that said in part:

*As heads of diverse religious traditions in the United States, our faiths call on us to proclaim that transgender, intersex, and nonbinary people deserve respect, love, and equal rights. During a time when our country is placing their lives under increasingly serious threat, there is a disgraceful*

*misconception that people of faith don't affirm the full spectrum of gender. Let it be known instead that our beloveds are created in the image of God – Holy and whole.*

While these public declarations are necessary, we must also back up our words with actions of solidarity and love. Here are three opportunities to support our St. Louis trans community:

- Sign a pledge to defend trans rights in Missouri with PROMO, the state's LGBTQ+ advocacy and public policy agency.
- Metro Trans Umbrella Group (MTUG) is our area's biggest support organization for trans, genderqueer, intersex, and androgynous people. Recently, PUCC partnered with PFLAG's mid-county chapter to collect food every month for MTUG's pantry. Other volunteer opportunities are listed on the MTUG web site.
- Have "that" conversation when you hear a person supporting the denial of gender-affirming care for youth or normalize sport or bathroom bans. If you need some guidance, TransParent USA has a page of educational resources for you. Even a simple statement such as, "I have loved ones who are trans (or genderqueer, intersex) and your statement is very hurtful to me. My loved one is a beloved child of God and is deserving of all human rights as everyone else," can be a powerful witness in a moment. ~Deb Reinhardt, ONA Team

## **Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue on Zoom**

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 with TAD for our latest book, *The Maid* by Nita Prose. We'll discuss the book in thirds on Zoom: **December 2, December 16, and January 6.**

A *Clue*-like, locked-room mystery and a heartwarming journey of the spirit, *The Maid* explores what it means to be the same as everyone else and yet entirely different—and reveals that all mysteries can be solved through connection to the human heart (Penguin Random House). We'd love to have you! Fellowship starts at 1:45pm and the book discussion is from 2-3pm. For more info, please contact [jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com)

## **Honoring Tyler Wessel – Raising Mental Health Awareness**

Parkway Central High and CHADS Mental Health Coalition invite you to a varsity basketball game on **Tuesday, December 2** at Parkway Central High School ~ 369 N Woods Mill Rd, Chesterfield 63017 -- just north of Ladue Rd at Hwy 141.

Cheer on Tyler Wessel's old basketball team at Parkway Central and help raise money for mental health programs.

Tyler loved sports and was an accomplished athlete. He was kind, good humored and brought people together. He grew up here at PUCC - attended our PUNS Preschool, Bellerive Elementary, Central Junior and Central High. He was a student at Indiana University at the time of his death by suicide in August 2021. <https://www.schrader.com/obituary/tyler-wessel>

His basketball team has hosted a fundraiser for mental health since 2021. 'Talk for Tyler' is the theme that reminds all of us that we need to speak about mental health regularly and make sure that the people around us know that we are willing to listen to them and love them in the midst of any challenge or struggle. (Refer to page 3 of this worship bulletin for hot/warm lines.)

Join us as we remember Tyler, rally around his parents Cindy and Ralf, all while enjoying some good basketball. For more information, please contact **kevin@parkwayucc.org**; 314-872-9330

## **Allegro Chorus Songs of the Season Concert**

Hear more than 100 voices (including PUCCers Mary Akers and Deb Reinhardt), a handbell choir, and orchestra present music for Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa at 3pm on Dec. 6 and 7 in the beautifully decorated sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood (100 E. Adams). Audience members will delight in familiar carols and holiday classics by Irving Berlin. The concert is free but reservations are required.

Visit **<https://tinyurl.com/483bdp8s>** or scan/click QR



## **Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone**

Tuesday, December 9 | 8-10am | 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

## **Missouri History Museum Exhibit: *Mill Creek Black Metropolis***

Thursday, December 11 | 10am-2pm | 5700 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, 63112

Please join the Adventurers on a trip to the Missouri History Museum. We'll meet at the church at 9:30am for carpooling, or at 10am at the Museum (5700 Lindell Boulevard). We'll tour the new *Mill Creek: Black Metropolis* exhibit, among other things. (More details to come.) Afterward, the group will head to lunch at a place to be determined. Come join in on the fun and meet some other PUCCers.

From its origin at the turn of the 20th century to its destruction in 1959 in the name of urban renewal, Mill Creek Valley was a center for Black life in St. Louis. With a population of nearly 20,000 people and more than 5,000 buildings, Mill Creek was a city within a city, noted for its vibrant commercial life, rich culture, and popular entertainment venues. How is it, then, that almost no trace of Mill Creek remains in St. Louis today? *Mill Creek: Black Metropolis* explores the rich history of a St. Louis neighborhood that historians have likened to New York's legendary Harlem. It was the home of St. Louis's major Black newspapers, the offices of numerous Black professionals, a center of social activism, and the birthplace of ragtime. All this richness thrived amid and despite racial segregation, providing African Americans common ground and the refuge from the daily slights and indignities of a stark color divide in 20th-century St. Louis. For more info, contact Jackie Eiffert **[jeiffert2@gmail.com](mailto:jeiffert2@gmail.com)**

(Continue the conversation with 'Witnessing Whiteness' at PUCC in January.)



## Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Friday, December 12 | 10am | Panera on Manchester Road in Des Peres

Join us for a beverage and sweet treat. Come connect!

No need to RSVP - just show up! We will also gather on Monday, January 12 at 2pm. Questions? Contact **kevin@parkwayucc.org**; 314-872-9330

## Meeting Our Neighbors: Congregation Temple Israel

Friday, December 12 | 6-8:30pm | 1 Rabbi Alvan D Rubin Dr. STL, MO 63141

Join our Jewish neighbors as interfaith guests as we gather with Congregation Temple Israel for their *Hannukah Shabbat* followed by a conversation with the rabbi. Scan or click QR code for more info and to RSVP.



For more information Contact James at 314-792-7177 or **jamescomminellis@archstl.org**

## AWOL (Adventurous Women Out Late) - Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 14 | Panera then Lindbergh High School

Join the 200+ voice St. Louis County Community Chorus (including our own Michelle Brueggemann) and guest orchestra for their 50th Anniversary holiday concert, *My Voice Will Light the Way*. Get in the holiday spirit with a selection of wonderful music.

We will be attending the 2pm show. Some of us will lunch at Panera after church and go on to the show together!

Please RSVP to Carmen cfbum@charter.net

(If you aren't available at 2pm, you could go to the 4:30pm show.)

Tickets are \$20 and are available online or at the door.

## Opportunities for Good Samaritans

**North St. Louis Tornado Relief, food.** Please add extra nonperishable food items on Give-a-Meal Sundays and throughout the autumn season for Sunday give-aways to people affected by the St. Louis tornado. Please place items in marked containers in the lobby.

**North St. Louis Tornado Relief, nonfood.** Our church is a collection point for Planned Parenthood as they gather baby and personal hygiene items for mothers and babies affected by the St. Louis tornado. Please place items in the marked containers in the Gathering Space library area. Questions? Please contact Sally Dodge **s.dodge@hotmail.com**; and Evelyn Buretta **burettaevelyn@gmail.com**

## **Little Red Hen Mode**

Molly Baskette, UCC Pastor

*Then [Jesus] said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few, therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” - Matthew 9:37-38 (ESV)*

One of my fatal flaws is thinking it all depends on me: my labor, my know-how, my commitment to getting the job done. I call this Little Red Hen mode.

Remember her? She sowed the seed, weeded the field, harvested and milled the grain, baked the bread, inviting her fellow farm animals into the work at every step. They begged off, but when they smelled that bread baking, they sure came running.

The hen let them watch while she carbo-loaded that whole loaf by herself. I would never. Instead, I would feed everybody while harboring bitterness that no one had helped me along the way.

My church recently made a big thing happen: creating an emergency shelter for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers. I was overwhelmed with many tasks and found it hard to delegate. Among other things, we needed new mattresses.

An agency gave me the name of a mattress store that might be willing to donate. I almost didn't call. I feared red tape and, frankly, rejection: either because we were a church or because we were supporting trans refugees.

But I'm trying to change my attitude, so I called. Joe answered on the second ring. He was warm, receptive. He joked, “If I can get corporate to donate the mattresses, maybe you can pray for me in exchange?”

Playing along, I said, “I'll pray for you even if you don't get us the mattresses. What do you want?”

He turned shy. “Well...every night my family prays for other families—all kinds of families, however they got here. That everyone can live in peace and safety.”

“I'll join you in that prayer.” Corporate didn't donate the mattresses. But Joe and his employees all chipped in and paid for them anyhow.

When we get embittered that we are the only one doing God's work, we might stop and ask ourselves if we have prayed and acted in ways that invite others in to find their place in it.

### **Prayer:**

*Holy Farmer, may I sometimes stop the stoop laboring to look around and find fellow field hands, with playfulness not bitterness. Amen.*

## **A Thanksgiving Prayer** A to Z

Thanks For the aardvark and the ant and all other creatures whose names begin with “A;” for the songs of birds, and honey from bees; for furry cats and swimming crayfish; for dingoes, and dolphins that swim in the sea; for elephants, and eagles who soar above the earth, let us say: we give you thanks, O God.

For frogs which keep us awake at night with their voices; for giraffes whose necks reach to the sky; for hamsters to pet and hogs who give us food; for insects who inhabit our world, let us say: we give you thanks, O God.

For jackrabbits racing across the desert; for kangaroos and katydids; for lions, lemmings, and lizards; for the mongoose, and monkeys who often remind us of ourselves, let the people say: we give you thanks, O God.

For nectarines which nourish us; for the octopus and oyster, gifts of the sea; for people, Lord, because we too are part of your creation, let us say: we give you thanks, O God.

For quartz which runs our watches; for rabbits, rats, and rainstorms; for snakes which slither in the grass; for trees that give us food and shelter; for the power of uranium, may we use it wisely and safely; let the people say: we give you thanks, O God.

For vipers and violets; for whales who swim the ocean and worms tunneling beneath the earth; for xerophytes; for yaks, and for yeast which leavens our bread; for the zebras, whose stripes are one place where black and white live peacefully together, we say: we give you thanks, O God.

Lord, all things in your creation are good. Bless all those parts of the earth which we have not mentioned. Make us faithful stewards of the gifts you have given. It is in Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

## **Thanksgiving Word Scramble**

icuonropca

etrshva

mevrnoeb

iligpmr

kuteyr

bcnerrrya

yraomewfl

tmolpyuh

ayhlid

qhsaus

shamde

lahtknfu

gwnmpaaao

inkmpup

rvagy

loblatfo

shdies

flymai

mmreisoe

toapto

pkinan

# Prayer List

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

## Celebrations

**Individuals and families happily preparing for the holidays.**  
**Prayer Chaplain Ministry at Parkway UCC.**

## Concerns

**Individuals and families preparing for the holidays while grieving.**

**April/Jameson Tallyn & family** - grieving her grandma's sudden death.

**Rebecca** - preparing for brain surgery on December 1 (Bowermaster).

**Gail Haack** - healing after diagnostic abdominal surgery last week.

**Uncle Josh** - healing after surgery for broken ankle (Rose).

**Martin/Norman family** - sudden death of daughter Cynthia (Grove).

**Kathy** - diagnosed with lymphoma, preparing for surgery (Akers).

**Ongoing chaos/grief in the Middle East** - and the *peace talks*.

**The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.**

**Our St Louis neighbors finding their way after tornado in May.**

**People across the US who are food insecure and need our help.**

## Continuing

**John & Dottie Dwyer** - continuing to make progress with his healing.

**Phil and Amy and daughter B** - as his terminal illness progresses.

**Karla Beck** - as her family seeks peace and her brother receives care.

**Howard Price** - rehab hospital after car accident, seizures (Svenson).

**Jackie** - settling in to a care center (McMillon).

**Joe and Linda** - their healing; caregiver granddaughter Lauren (Tarr).

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

**Judy Brueggemann** - continuing health challenges (Brad's mother).

**Richard** - treatments for congestive heart failure (Greg Schmelig's dad).

**Mark McKenzie** - for healing, clarity, refreshment (Tom's brother).

**Karen Anderson** - healing after shoulder surgery (Davidson).

**Emi** - 5 year-old back at Children's Hospital for chemo (McConnell).

**Kate Moran** - severe pain from Lyme disease (Borgmann).

**Debbie Sutcliffe** - potentially facing another cancer diagnosis (Akers).

**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...

**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 [birthdate: 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]

**Pat Owens** - *Mason Pointe* - 13190 South Outer Forty Rd, #2303; Town and Country, MO 63017; 314-323-7194 [birthdate: February 18]

**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.

**Jesus** RESTORER OF HOPE Lord of Lords  
 THE WORD Holy One  
 Bread of Life Master BRANCH  
 STAR ALPHA & OMEGA Teacher  
 Dayspring Prince of Peace  
 Son of Man COMFORTER  
 everLASTING SHILOH Anchor  
 FATHER The Almighty Light  
 Counselor TRUE VINE of the  
 MESSIAH THE LIFE HIGH  
 Giver of Life PRIEST World  
 & Blessings THE BELOVED  
 FAITHFUL & TRUE WITNESS Shield ROCK  
 Mediator Wonderful Counselor  
 The Resurrection King of Kings  
 Immanuel The Amen  
 LAMB OF GOD Healer | AM Servant  
 Good Saviour LIVING  
 Shepherd Redeemer WATER  
 Advocate The Way, the Truth & the Life

ONLY BEGOTTEN SON