



Hope



**PARKWAY**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

November 30, 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 Dawn Jones-Goldstein.

**Flowers** are given by Peg Sant'Ambrogio in celebration of her son Michael's birthday.

### Treats

will be shared in Bethlehem.



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

11/30 Kent Tallyn

12/2 Rocco Stolze

12/3 Pam Owens

12/4 Karen Hilgeman

12/5 Ryan Ruzicka

12/6 Polly Winklemann

## Anniversaries

12/6 Alan & Shelley Stein

# 1st Sunday of Advent: Hope

Sunday, November 30, 2025 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

**Prelude** *Message of HOPE* by Amy Freeman  
featuring the Morse Code pattern for the word HOPE . . . . .

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

## Meditation

In this day, this season, miracles will grow within, unfurl, bear fruit. And the heart that makes time and space for Jesus to come will be a glorious place. A place of sheer, radiant defiance in the face of a world careening mad and stressed. Because each day of Advent, we will actively wait. We will wait knowing that the remaking of everything has already begun. ~Ann Voskamp

## Passing the Hope of Christ

“May the hope of Christ be with you.”

(We are intentional about bringing more hope into the world.)

## Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

**Welcome Song** *Lead Me, Guide Me* | #2214 *Blue Songbook*

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,  
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

**Bethlehem Scriptures** Matthew 2:5-6; Luke 2:4-7; Matthew 2:1-2  
“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to

him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in clothes and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’

### \***Gathering at the Advent Wreath: Hope** based on Psalm 133

One:	How very good and pleasant it is when all people live together in unity!
<b>Many:</b>	<b>Like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains, bringing life and refreshment to all, so is the Spirit among us when we gather in love.</b>
One:	Like precious oil poured upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, a blessing for all, overflowing and abundant.
<b>Many:</b>	<b>There is life, there is hope, there is joy where harmony and justice meet, where love and peace abound.</b>
One:	Let us come together as a community of faith, welcoming every voice, embracing every story, to celebrate the goodness and the blessing of God's presence among us.
<b>All:</b>	<b>Let us worship our God of hope who binds us together, who calls us to live in unity and peace, and who delights in our shared life.</b>

### \***Questions at the Wreath**

**Hope** is often followed by a preposition: 'hope for' or 'hope in'.

Do the things you hope align with the character and ways of God?

How do your hopes echo Jesus and find breath from the Holy Spirit?

### \***Response** *Spirit of God's Living Hope*

**Spirit of God's living hope, fall afresh on me;**

**Spirit of God's living hope, fall afresh on me.**

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

**Spirit of God's living hope, fall afresh on me.**

### **Mission Moment** *Second Mile Advent*

Circle of Concern | Emmaus Homes | PROMO | The Christmas Fund

### **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.

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

## **Offertory Interlude** *Improvisation on The Prayer*

by David Foster, Carole Bayer Sager, Alberto Testa, and Tony Renis

### **\*Response** *I Come with Joy*

Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one... the love that makes us one.

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, there are so many gifts we want to share this season - one of them is hope. Guide us into places where we can speak and enact hope. We believe in you. We believe in ourselves and one another. We know the future is filled with your love. Help us to sense it, receive it and share it with others. Amen.

### **Children's Time**

Children, youth, teachers and parents go on their 'Journey to Bethlehem'

### **Scripture** Psalm 133 | New Revised Standard - Updated Version

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!  
It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.  
It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.  
For there the Lord ordained this blessing, life forevermore.

### **Reflection**

### **Pastoral Prayer and 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.]

### **\*Song of Parting** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

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

### **\*Music for Our 'Journey to Bethlehem'** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

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

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. Question? See Amy.

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

## Journey To Bethlehem

TODAY | 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.

## Red Poinsettias

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 [ccjcobb@aol.com](mailto:ccjcobb@aol.com)



## 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>

## 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, **Tuesday, December 2**, at Parkway Central High ~ 369 N Woods Mill Rd, Chesterfield 63017 -- just north of Ladue Rd at 141.

Come cheer on Tyler Wessel's old basketball team 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 through any challenge/struggle.

Join us as we remember Tyler, rally around his parents Cindy and Ralf and enjoy some good basketball. For more information, please contact

**kevin@parkwayucc.org**; 314-872-9330

## **AMOE - Men's Coffee**

AMOE meets this Thursday, December 4 in the Heritage Room from 9:15am to 10:30am. If you like you are welcome to come late; leave early; bring a friend. All are welcome for coffee, a pastry, and good conversation.

Questions? Please reach out to Richard Scherrer 90fivetpr@gmail.com

## **Ordination Service for Melinda Love**

Saturday, December 6 | 10:30am | Parkway UCC Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall  
We are fortunate to be hosting the Ordination of Melinda Love here at PUCC. Melinda was a guest worship leader in the late spring when Kevin was helping one of their college grads move. Melinda was very well received. You all made a lovely impression on her. She has been here at PUCC for other events too. Melinda is a member of Glory to Glory Christian Church UCC, a predominantly black church in St Louis - one of our UCC sibling churches. They worship on Sunday afternoons at St Paul's UCC on Giles in St Louis City. Melinda has an affinity for our PUCC ministry and sacred space, so our St Louis Association is having her ordination here. Melinda, her family and her faith family are in charge of everything and we are offering some support that day.

Please consider helping our UCC siblings celebrate Melinda's Ordination.

Let **kevin@parkwayucc.org** know that you are available.

Melinda will continue to serve as chaplain in the SSM system as an ordained person who can celebrate the sacraments in the hospital and elsewhere. We are grateful for your consideration as we offer extravagant hospitality.

## 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 December 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/483bpd8s> or use QR code.



## Speaker Series 12/7 World Communion of Reformed Churches.

### *Who are We and What is Our Mission*

Prof. Kuo is Associate Professor of Church History and Historical Theology at Eden Seminary. Hailing from Taiwan, he is a leader in the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC). To that end, he moderates the WCRC's General Council's Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations Working Group. The WCRC actively supports theology, justice, church unity, and mission in more than 100 countries.

Prof. Kuo will recount his work with the WCRC and the Council's meeting this year in Thailand in October, helping our Speakers Series audience to learn what Protestants around the world are talking about and working towards in the future.

Questions/comments, please speak to Richard Scherrer 9ofivetpr@gmail.com

## 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.

**Upcoming date:** Saturday, January

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](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org); 314-872-9330

## Tour Missouri History Museum's Mill Creek: Black Metropolis

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

Please join 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. Afterward, the group will head to lunch TBA. 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 today? This exhibit 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)

## **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! Upcoming date: Monday, January 12 at 2pm  
Questions? Contact [kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto: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

[jamescommnellis@archstl.org](mailto:jamescommnellis@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](mailto: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.

## **Open House New Kitchen Warming at Christmastime**

Sunday, December 21 | 1-5pm | Greg Schmelig's place...

2020 Washington Ave, Unit 514, St. Louis, MO 63103

My extended family will be here and I wanted my church family to join as they are able. Please bring an appetizer or shareable dessert if able... but especially bring cheer. Come, stop by and stay for a while...but at 5 pm...go home. Love you... but by 5 pm I'll be done. Beer, wine and soda will be provided.

Peace, joy and love! Greg Schmelig ~[greg\\_schmelig@hotmail.com](mailto:greg_schmelig@hotmail.com)

## **All-gender Restroom**

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.

## 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](mailto:s.dodge@hotmail.com); and Evelyn Buretta [burettaevelyn@gmail.com](mailto:burettaevelyn@gmail.com)

## Advent Daily Devotions

Copies of *Soon and Very Soon*, our 2025 Advent daily devotional guide, are available in the Gathering Space today. Please take one per household.

We hope these devotions from our UCC *God is Still Speaking* writers will help you to be present to the season. Each day has a scripture, a personal reflection and a prayer.

May these Advent days wrap you in the warmth of God's immediacy!

We also send our own PUCC daily devotions for Advent via email each day. If you aren't receiving these and would like to, please email [kevin@parkwayucc.org](mailto:kevin@parkwayucc.org)

Every day of the year, our denomination puts out a daily devotion from our UCC Stillspeaking Writers Group. Take a look and sign up if you'd like – <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>

## Witnessing Whiteness PUCC Study Group begins in January

We're forming a *Witnessing Whiteness* learning circle using Shelly Tochluk's book *Witnessing Whiteness: The Journey into Racial Awareness and Antiracist Action* as our framework. It's a supportive, no-shame space where white-identifying people can explore identity, grow in self-awareness, and practice showing up with more courage, compassion, and clarity in our diverse and hurting world. No expertise needed is - just curiosity and a willingness to reflect in community. This will take place on Zoom - Mondays 6:30-8:30pm

If you're looking for a space to deepen your understanding, build stronger relationships, and align your actions with your values, we'd love to have you. *This experience is free.* We just ask that you purchase the book. More guidance will be provided by our three trained volunteer facilitators that have been assigned to shepherd or PUCC group.

We invite you to engage in an exciting opportunity that supports our core values of limitless love, courageous action and spirited inquiry. The purpose of this group is to gain thought-provoking information and engage in meaningful conversations surrounding how White people can, and should, play an important role in the fight for racial justice.

Kevin has participated in a *Witnessing Whiteness* group in the past and will not be a part of this one. Please reach out to him with questions or to sign up. Dates: Jan 26; Feb 2, 9, 23; Mar 2, 9, 23, 30; Apr 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4 and 11.

## **Awake at Home**

Matt Laney

*[Jesus said to them,] “Stay awake! If the house owner knew when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and stood guard. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man comes at an unexpected hour.”*

- Matthew 24:42-44 (adapted)

In Plum Village, the monastery founded by Thich Nhat Hanh, I was taught to wash the dishes or clean the kitchen counter as if caring for a baby.

At first, it felt contrived. Eventually, something shifted. Giving loving attention to a tiny, fragile human can turn most anyone into an awakened being, if only for a moment, which is all we have.

Brother Lawrence, a 17th-century Carmelite monk, spoke of something similar...

“The time of business does not with me differ from the time of prayer. In the noise and clutter of my kitchen...I possess God in tranquility as if I were upon my knees at the Blessed Sacrament.” He also said, “Great have abandoned all particular forms of devotion, all prayer techniques. My only prayer practice is attention.”

Jesus urged his disciples to remain awake and alert to the arrival of the Holy, because the Eternal is not only present, the Eternal is presence itself. In my experience, the presence of the Eternal becomes available through the practice of loving attention.

If God ever feels out of reach, try going about your day as if carrying a sleeping infant. Few people act heedlessly or recklessly while holding a baby at rest. We naturally move more tranquilly and speak more gently. Our attention becomes more acute; our being is more reverent. In one unexpected moment, holiness arrives.

Stay alert.

Love what you do.

The Presence is literally at hand.

### **Prayer:**

*Holy One, today may I strive for attention over perfection.*

# Prayer List

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

## Celebrations

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

## Concerns

**Individuals and families grieving at the holidays.**

**April/Jameson Tallyn Family** - grieving her grandma's sudden death; funeral on Saturday of Thanksgiving Weekend in Sikeston.

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

**Gail Haack** - healing after recent diagnostic abdominal surgery.

**Lori Connors** - healing.

**David Klausmeyer** - near death in a Maine hospital (Reinhardt).

**Linda, Michelle, Lauren** - as they grieve/give thanks for Joe (Tarr).

**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.**

## 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).

**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.

## **Prayer Chaplain Ministry here at Parkway UCC.**

## **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](mailto: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.

## **Advent Second Mile 2025**

Support local and denominational efforts at caring for people via  
Circle of Concern | Emmaus Homes | PROMO | The Christmas Fund

### **Circle of Concern**

Serving four west St. Louis County school districts as well as areas of Jefferson County, *Circle of Concern* provides wholesome foods and a host of other services to more than 2,000 individuals monthly as their needs continue to grow.

Circle's tagline is, "Feeding families is just the beginning." They know that when a family is struggling to put food on the table, there are likely other needs as well. So they offer wraparound support for eligible households: wholesome foods, emergency rent and utility assistance, counseling, career mentorship, scholarships, kid programs and more! These programs work together to take a little off clients' financial plates, and help them to get back on their feet. Along with a caring community of volunteers, donors and community partners, they help families move from crisis and uncertainty to stability.

Learn more: <https://www.circleofconcern.org/>

### **Emmaus Homes**

Adults with developmental disabilities find the services, support and care they need to reach their highest potential at *Emmaus Homes*. Through a variety of residential, habilitative and recreational programs, each client receives individualized care based on their needs, interests and goals. With a large number of individual Emmaus homes spread out across the metro area, their clients receive stable and supportive housing, home management training, budget tutoring, grocery shopping and meal prep assistance, as well as physical, occupational, speech and behavior therapy services – all so they can live their best lives.

Learn more: <https://emmaushomes.org/>

### **PROMO**

Missouri's statewide LGBTQ+ public policy and advocacy organization was formed in 1986 in response to all of the legal and political attacks on queer persons in Missouri and throughout the country. Unfortunately, with an increase in proposed and enacted anti-LGBTQ+ legislation today, the need for organizations like *PROMO* continue to be needed. Their four focus areas are health and wellness; transgender justice; youth and education; and older LGBTQ+ adults. PUCC has been a satellite location for some of their volunteer trainings and will continue to be in 2026.

Learn more: <https://promomissouri.org/>

### **The Christmas Fund**

*The Christmas Fund* has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. Your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

Learn more: <https://www.pbucc.org/index.php/christmas-fund-home>

# CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET

**PUCC youth and Eco Stewards are planning a FUNDdrive! They will be collecting clothing, household textiles, dishes, small appliances, books, media, and more to raise money to support our Pollenator Garden and teen mission trips. Start thinking of gently used items you can donate to help these causes and begin the New Year with a bit less clutter.**

