



Christmas Eve



December 24, 2025
www.parkwayucc.org

Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 4:30pm Worship
- 9 7:30pm Worship
- 16 Announcements
- 19 Prayer List

Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

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

Congregational Statement

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

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131 | 314-872-9330 [p] | 314-872-9014 [f]
parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org

Lana Biondo, *President of the Church Council* [puccpresident@parkwayucc.org]

Kevin Cameron, *Pastor* [kevin@parkwayucc.org]

Gabriel Requadt, *Christian Education & Admin Support; Licensed Minister*
[gabriel@parkwayucc.org]

Amy Freeman, *Organist* [amy@parkwayucc.org]

Kathy Ferrell, *Building and Scheduling* [kathy@parkwayucc.org]

Amy Yakel, *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org]

Dawn Friedmann, *Bookkeeper* [dawn@parkwayucc.org]

Katie Hertfelder, *Nursery* [gabriel@parkwayucc.org]

Kim Livengood, *Church Historian* [historian@parkwayucc.org]

Joyce Ruiz, *Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador* [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com]

Polly Rutherford, *Environmental Justice/Eco Stewards* [pollyrutherford@gmail.com]

John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome to Parkway

Thank you for joining us this morning! If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat or sending an email.

Welcome Children We invite children to full participation in worship. We also have activity bags for young children to use while they are here.

Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop their work and join in prayer.



Scripture Reader

Kari Borgmann (4:30pm)
Evelyn Buretta (7:30pm). Consider signing up to read scripture by scanning QR code.

Poinsettias Cindy Nouri, Jackie Eiffert, Marian Pleis, Joan DeGroote, Sue Moellering, Greg Schmelig, Kathy Ferrell, Sue Stohr, Joyce Ruiz, Kari Borgmann, Cindy Levin, Donna Ruzicka, Barb Harris, and Cassie Rosenberger.

Please consider honoring, remembering or celebrating someone by providing flowers for worship in 2026.

Subscribe to our email lists reach out to contact@parkwayucc.org.

All word and service music reprint permission covered under CCLI License #2464265; CLCLI Streaming License #21357331

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>

SQSH St. Louis Queer Support & Healing 314-380-7774 (Fri-Mon, 1-7pm)

Birthdays

12/24 Ingrid Scharf

12/25 Roger Fauss

12/27 Karen Grayheck

12/28 Zoe Lyons

Anniversaries

12/27 Bill & Nancy Darland

12/27 Leslie & Tom Tupper

12/28 Bill & Gail Haack

12/28 Stan & Kathy Burcham

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 | 4:30pm | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Meditation Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas. ~Dale Evans

Prelude *Little Drummer Boy* with soloist Bill Haack
Good People All with soloist Michelle Brueggeman

Welcome

Lighting the Candles & Ringing the Bell

Centering in the Light of Christ

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Sharing the Hope, Peace, Joy & Love of Christ

“May the hope, peace, joy and love of Christ be with you.”

(We are intentional about bringing more of these gifts into the world.)

*Call to Worship

One:	Tonight, we come together. (hands reach out to the sides)
Many:	We gather in love. (hands come together over heart)
One:	God's love is born in surprising places. (point gently around the room)
Many:	We look for light everywhere. (look around, hands shading eyes)
One:	The shepherds hurried to see. (pretend to walk/run quickly in place)
Many:	We move toward hope. (lean forward)
One:	The angels sang, “Do not be afraid!” (hands raised joyfully)
Many:	We breathe in peace. (slow deep breath in and out)
One:	A child is born among us. (cradle arms like holding a baby)
Many:	Love and joy are with us now. (hug self or clap your hands)
One:	Come, just as you are. (gesture welcoming arms)
All:	We are ready to worship (hands lifted or folded together)

Lighting the Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

Questions at the Wreath

How does the birth of Jesus challenge systems that rely on fear, scarcity, or violence?

Where do we long for light but are afraid to name the darkness?

What would it mean to trust that small beginnings still matter?

Who needs to hear tonight that there is room for them?

As we receive this light, where are we called to share it?

What would change if we believed the light truly cannot be overcome?

What might it mean that God chooses vulnerability over power?

Response *O Come, All Ye Faithful* | #41 Red Hymnal

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant O come ye, o
come ye to Bethlehem Come and behold Him, born the King
of Angels**

O come, let us adore Him...O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him...Christ the Lord.

Opening Prayer

God, on this holy night, we gather with excitement. Remind us that hope can be born in small places and love comes close to us all. May peace be among us, joy rise within us, and light shine through us - tonight and always. Amen.

Hebrew Scripture Lesson *Isaiah 9, selected verses*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Parent, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Response *Be Near Me, Lord Jesus*

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay

Close by me forever and love me, I pray

Bless all the dear children in your tender care,

And teach us, dear Jesus, to laugh and to share.

The Christmas Message

Luke 2:1-4

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered.

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

Reflection

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Luke 2:5-7

Joseph went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Reflection

**Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

Luke 2:8-11

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, “Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be delivered to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

Reflection

**The First Noel, the Angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel!**

Luke 2:12-14

The angel said to them, “This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!”

Reflection

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo... Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

Reflection

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?

**Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping**

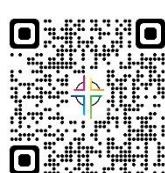
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary

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.]

Invitation to Generosity

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

Offertory *O Holy Night* with soloist Cassie Rosenberger***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, we also come bearing gifts. We are people of hope, peace, joy and love - so help us to discover old and new ways of sharing these blessings with the people we know - and with the people we don't know yet. Amen.

***Sharing the Light of Christ**

Tilt only the candle being lit.

***Congregational Carol** *Silent Night/Stille Nacht*

The first verse in German links us to our church's German founders.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht

*Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh', Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'!*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

Benediction**Music for Going Forth** *Joy to the World*

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 | 7:30pm | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Meditation I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. ~Matthew 25:35-36

Gathering Music

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant

O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem

Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels

O come, let us adore Him... O come, let us adore Him...

O come, let us adore Him. Christ the Lord

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,

The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,

The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The First Noel

The First Noel, the Angels did say

Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep

On a cold winter's night that was so deep

Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel!

Lighting the Candles & Ringing the Bell

Prelude *The Holly and the Ivy*

Welcome

Sharing the Hope, Peace, Joy & Love of Christ

“May the hope, peace, joy and love of Christ be with you.”

(We are intentional about bringing more of these gifts into the world.)

*Call to Worship

One:	Tonight, we come together from the north, south, east and west.
Many:	We gather in love.
One:	God's love is born in surprising and unexpected places.
Many:	We look for light everywhere.
One:	The shepherds hurried to see what had taken place.
Many:	We, too, move toward hope.
One:	The angels sang robustly, "Do not be afraid!"
Many:	We breathe in the gentleness and strength of peace.
One:	A child is born among us.
Many:	Love and joy are with us now.
One:	Come, just as you are.
All:	We are ready to celebrate and commit ourselves to Christ-like living and the common good.

Centering in the Light of Christ John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Lighting the Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

Questions at the Wreath

How does the birth of Jesus challenge systems that rely on fear, scarcity, or violence?

Where do we long for light but are afraid to name the darkness?

What would it mean to trust that small beginnings still matter?

Who needs to hear tonight that there is room for them?

As we receive this light, where are we called to share it?

What would change if we believed the light truly cannot be overcome?

Response *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.

Children's Message

Children return to sit with their families.
The Gathering Space is a great place for anyone needing to move around during this worship service.

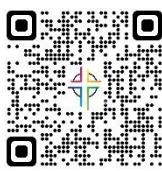
Blessing the Children (Tune: *Away in a Manger*)

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And teach us, dear Jesus, to laugh and to share.**

Mission Moment

Second Mile Advent/Christmas
Circle of Concern | Emmaus Homes | PROMO | Christmas Fund

Invitation to Generosity



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 service. There are offering plates in the Gathering Space outside the sanctuary too. Thank you for your generosity.
www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offertory

Good People All with soloist Michelle Brueggeman and Christmas Choir

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, we also come bearing gifts. We are people of hope, peace, joy and love - so help us to discover old and new ways of sharing these blessings with the people we know - and with the people we don't know yet. Amen.

***Carol** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* | #44 Red Hymnal

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where mees souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ
enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

Hebrew Scripture Lesson *Isaiah 9, selected verses*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Parent, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Christmas Gospel Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Carol *What Child is This?* | #53 Red Hymnal

**What Child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?**

**Refrain: This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

(Refrain)

**So, bring Him incense, gold and myrrh;
Come, one and all, to own Him.**

The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

(Refrain)

Sermon

Invitation to the Communion Table

We celebrate an "open table." All are invited to participate! There's plenty of room at this table.

Prayers, 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.]

Sharing the Presence of Christ

Please come forward down the center aisle to receive the bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available on the table. Grape juice is in the outer ring; wine is in the center. Please return by the side aisles. If it is more comfortable for you to remain seated, an usher will bring this simple sacred meal to you.

Communion Interlude *In the Bleak Midwinter* by Christina Rossetti with tune by Gustav Holst

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Holy Mystery of Love, we have tasted grace right here - bread broken, cup shared, heaven touching earth in ordinary ways. As you came once in a child laid in a manger, come again through us: in gentle words, in courageous compassion, in justice that refuses to sleep. Send us from this table carrying your light into a world still longing for peace, trusting that love, when embodied, is enough to change everything. We go in hope, we go in joy, we go as bearers of the Christ-light. Amen.

***Sharing the Light of Christ**

Tilt only the candle being lit

***Congregational Carol** *Silent Night/Stille Nacht*

The first verse in German links us to our church's German founders.

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh', Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'!*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia.
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace. Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

***Benediction**

***Music for Going Forth** *Joy to the World*

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](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 or cynthianouri@gmail.com

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am

“Mark Twain, His Wit, His Words, and His Life,” by Bev Schuetz of History Talks.

Sunday, January 4, 2026 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Learn the surprising story of America's most beloved author while laughing at his wonderful observations on human nature. Follow this Missouri born writer's great successes and personal happiness as well as his tragic personal and financial losses.

Our speaker, Bev Schuetz, is a popular and dynamic speaker who has created HISTORY TALKS, a series of live presentations. She is known for her unique topics, delightful presentations, and thoroughly researched programs. HISTORY TALKS combines her skills in public speaking, historical analysis, and creative writing. The results are lectures that reward and enrich those attending her presentations.

“Bletchley Park; the Home of WWII’s Codebreakers,” by Parks Smith.

Sunday, January 18, 2026 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Bletchley Park, in England, was the top-secret home of the World War II "Codebreakers." a term for the over 9,000 men and women who intercepted and cracked German war messages. Winston Churchill referred to the Bletchley staff as "the geese who laid the golden eggs and never cackled." Our speaker, Parks Smith, is a retired St. Louisan historian, who often speaks at the St. Louis History Museum.

Mr. Smith will explore Bletchley Park's history from 1939 to 1946, sharing stories of those who worked there and detailing how German messages were captured and decoded during the Battle of the Atlantic. This mighty effort included breaking the German Enigma and Lorenz codes and developing the Colossus computer.

Questions? Please email Richard Scherrer at 9ofivetpr@gmail.com

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: **January 6, 2026.**

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

Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone

Saturday, January 10, 2026 | 7-9am | New Sanctuary

Drop-in Prayer Time. Kevin will be in the Prayer Corner in the Sanctuary.

Come on by if you'd like to pray together.

If you see someone else there, simply wait a bit in the Gathering Space.

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

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Monday, January 12, 2026 | 2pm | Panera on Manchester Road in Des Peres

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

No need to RSVP - just show up!

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731; Passcode: 792617

Please join us on for friendship and lively book discussions on **Jan 13** when TED resumes after our Holiday Break. We read a variety of books related to social justice, spirituality, different faiths, history, relationships, current events and nature. We also may choose some random books just for fun. Most books take three sessions to complete. Bring a dish to share for the pot luck & join us for our next conversation! Newcomers are always welcome!

Please join us in person at 6pm or on Zoom starting at 6:45pm.

Contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net for questions.

Day of Service in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 19, 2026 | 9:30am-12pm | 3752 Giles Ave., St. Louis, 63116

Youth 12-17 years of age are welcome to join Interfaith Partnerships Youth on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to serve the unhoused. The youth will prepare a meal and set up cots/bedding for the unhoused. They will offer team and peace-building games as well. Space is limited and you must register by letting Kevin know you are interested. Kevin will be leading the youth from PUCC. Contact him at kevin@parkwayucc.org for more info.

Authentic Selves: Celebrating Trans and Nonbinary People & Their Families

Saturday, January 24, 2026 | 7-8:30pm | Gathering Space

Join the Parkway ONA Team and the LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance in welcoming the Family Diversity Project's photo exhibit, "Authentic Selves," presented at Parkway UCC from Jan. 24 through Feb. 8, 2026. Opening night reception features guest Jordon Braxton, a longtime St. Louis advocate for trans rights and a member of the St. Lois City HIV Health Services Planning Council.

Refreshments will be served. A second opening will be from 9 to 10am with opportunity to view exhibit and enjoy a continental breakfast before Sunday worship. The exhibit will be on view through Feb. 8, 2026. Please scan or click QR code to RSVP by Jan. 23. For more info, contact Debbie Reinhardt deborahreinhardt@att.net



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 this time. Questions? Want to join? kevin@parkwayucc.org
Dates: Jan 26; Feb 2, 9, 23; Mar 2, 9, 23, 30; Apr 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4 and 11.

Opportunities for Good Samaritans

North St. Louis Tornado Relief, food. Please add extra nonperishable food items on Give-a-Meal Sundays and throughout the winter 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

Prayer List

Monday, December 22, 2025

Celebrations

This Advent/Christmas Journey of hope, peace, joy and love!

Mona Maynard - retired last week after nearly 15 years at PUCC.

Concerns

Individuals and families grieving at the holidays.

All the travelers this holiday season.

Pam Walker - healing after major surgery earlier this week.

Marion Pleis - healing from recent carpal tunnel surgery.

Greg Schmelig's father - in a rehab facility after recent hospital stay.

Tina - complications of Legionaries' disease (Jones-Goldstein).

Traci Saputo's dad - hospitalized with broken hip and other issues.

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

Alex Wiseman - seeking diagnosis/treatment for health concern.

Rebecca - continued healing after recent brain surgery (Bowermaster).

Virginia Krus - healing after leg amputation (Evelyn Buretta's sister).

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

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

Lori Connors - healing and strengthening.

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).

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

Emi - 5 year-old with Children's Hospital for chemo (McConnell).

Kate Moran - receiving treatments; exorbitant cost (Borgmann).

Kathy - diagnosed with lymphoma, preparing for surgery (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. Please let kevin@parkwayucc.org know and he will add you to the call list. Thanks!