



www.parkwayucc.org

March 15, 2026

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

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

Congregational Statement

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

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome to Parkway

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

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

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

Worship Serving Today

Scripture Reader is Bill Haack.

Flowers are given by Sue & Charles Moellering in honor of Nick & Sue McMillon's 25th anniversary.

Treats provided by Sue and Nick McMillon.

Our Prayer Chaplain this morning is Pam Walker.



If you would like to volunteer for any of these serving opportunities or join the corresponding group, please scan the QR code and click on the **Serving Opportunities Calendar**. Thanks!

Subscribe to our email lists Sign up at www.parkwayucc.org

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Mental Health Support

988 (new nationwide 3-digit number similar to 911... call or text)

24/7 Crisis Hotline 800-273-8255 (TALK) | 800-SUICIDE: 800-784-2433

24/7 Missouri Department of Mental Health 800-811-4760

Text 741741 and someone will text right back...www.crisistextline.org

Behavioral Health Network of Greater St Louis 314-449-6713

The numbers below are called Warmlines (not Hotlines).

They are peer run by people with lived experience.

Not all of them are 24/7/365

Teen Warm Line: 1 800-248-8336

Black Warm Line: 1-800-604-5841 (They are divested from the police)

Trans Warm Line: 1-877-565-8860

Project Return Warm Line: 1-800-448-9777 (run away)

Learn more about warm lines: <https://warmlines.org/warmdir.html>

Birthdays

3/15 Jean Mueller

3/16 Christopher Haack

3/16 Avery Delannay

3/17 Karen Mariani

3/18 Patrick Clifford

3/19 John Ruiz

3/20 Lara Reed

3/20 Andrew Simonson

3/20 Armie Milam

Anniversary

3/17 Nick & Sue McMillon

4th Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 15, 2026 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live

Prelude *Forgive me* by Nadeem Mohammed, transcribed for solo piano

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation Love don't start with the eyes. Starts with the heart. Look deep down inside in all that you have a chance to make a choice, to make a change. So make the choice to look with the eyes of your heart. ~India Arie Simpson

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 *Lead Me, Guide Me*

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.

Scripture John 9:1-12 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of the One who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask,

***Lenten Candles** Questions Shape Us...

Who is to blame?

We lit seven candles on Ash Wednesday as we embarked on this Lenten journey. We want the light of the Holy to illumine our path as we seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We commit to being infused by the Spirit as we travel. Even as we know this is good and important work, we recognize that it isn't easy - and we will come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.

We extinguish one candle each time we worship this season, acknowledging that this can be tough and exhausting work. As we approach the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning... the light and love of God that never goes out.

***Prayer at the Candles**

Holy One, as we make this Lenten journey alone and together, we bring the questions that shape us, including: What are my limits? How can we be born anew? Where do we find living water? Who is to blame? Can these bones carry us? What do we believe? Who is this Jesus washing our feet? Why are we forsaken? Whom are we looking for? Who will roll the stone away? You meet us not with easy answers but with invitation - to new awareness that adds momentum to love, to heightened senses and unsealed wells, to dry bones moistened, to burdens seen through compassion, to stones rolled away in hope. In this season of deconstruction and rebuilding, letting go and beginning again - lead us, guide us. Lift our eyes to the hills, steady our steps in the valley, and make us brave enough to ask, humble enough to listen, and bold enough to follow. Form us into people oriented to justice, thirsting for mercy, alive in resurrection. Amen.

***Response** *Were You There When They Questioned?*

Were you there when they questioned Jesus Christ?

Were you there when he asked them questions too?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to wonder, ponder, discern.

Be with us as we question and respond.

Children's Time For children under the age of 3, parents are invited to take them to Room 06 (upper level) where one of our teachers will meet them at the door. Children and youth will gather in Room 13 (lower level) for the Opening Session. Children from age 3 to 2nd grade will then go to Room 12, children from 3rd to 5th grade will stay in Room 13, and youth from 6th to 12th grade will go to Room 15. For children in Room 06, 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 *Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands*

Je - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to all. Heal - ing pain and
Take my hands, Lord Je - sus, let them work for you. Make them strong and

sick - ness, bless - ing child - ren small. Wash - ing tir - ed feet and
gen - tle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Je - sus,

sav - ing those who fall. Je - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to all.
till I'm gen - tle too. Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

Scripture John 9:13-41 | NRSVUE

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

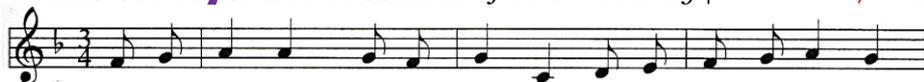
So, for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of the Human One?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

A Time of Prayer *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* | #314 Red Hymnal



1. Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, Like the chal - lenge of her
 2. To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, To the branch - es of the
 3. With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, With the cease - less voice of



flight, Like the vig - or of the wind's rush, Like the
 Vine, To the church in faith as - sem - bled, To her
 prayer, With the power to love and wit - ness, With the



new flame's ea - ger might:
 midst as gift and sign: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
 peace be - yond com - pare:

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

Offering Our Gifts to God



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

www.parkwayucc.org/giving

Offering Interlude *O Let All Who Thirst (Let Them Come to the Water)*

by John Foley SJ on Harmonica

*Response *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* | #593 Red Hymnal

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures

here be-low; Praise God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and

Ho-ly Ghost. A - men. A - men. A - men.

A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, you open our eyes to your love and mercy - that you call us to give freely to others. May the gifts that have been received help benefit not only this church, but all of your creation, that through it we may be able to know and see you better, through Christ by your most Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Song of Parting *Amazing Grace* | #280 Red Hymnal



1. A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re - lieved;
3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come;
4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my hope se - cures;



I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
He will my shield and por - tion be As long as life en - dures.

5. When we've been there ten thousand
years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth *Shepherd of Love* (based on a traditional Irish hymn)

After the service today, we will have a choir/instrumentalist practice for Easter! Thank you! Questions? See Amy Freeman, our organist/pianist.

Get Out the Vote Postcards

TODAY | 11:15am | Gathering Space

We're gathering to write postcards from Informed Voters of America (an initiative of Postcards to Swing States) to our neighbors in Iowa ahead of their June 2, 2026, primary. Card writers follow a provided short script; addresses are provided, too. Postcards, pens, and stamps are provided but any donation to offset postage is appreciated. Can't stay after church? Pick up a pack of 5 or 10 postcard/addresses to take home (you are responsible for postage). Cards must be mailed on April 2, 2026. Questions? Contact Deb Reinhardt deborahreinhardt@att.net

Dream Voice Choir Concert

The Dream Voice Choir, a lovely choir that practices at PUCC, invites you to a *free* concert **TODAY** at 3pm here in our Sanctuary! They sing in Chinese and English. You will really enjoy them. Why not invite a friend to join you?

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

Comm Team March PSA

Parkway's Communications Team wants groups at church to know that we would love to help publicize events or projects you are planning. We can provide posters, eNews articles, video clips, postings on Facebook and Instagram, and more. Let us know if we can help you get your message out. Contact Barb Harris: barbharris@charter.net. We also want to remind everyone that eNews/bulletin items need to be submitted by **Monday at noon**.

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 as we read and discuss *The Lion Women of Tehran*, a novel by Marjan Kamali, in one more session on **March 17**. We'd love to have you! The book is a heartfelt, epic novel of friendship, betrayal, redemption, and the struggle for women's rights set against three transformative decades in Tehran, Iran. Fellowship starts at 1:45pm and the book discussion is from 2-3pm. For more info, please contact Jackie Eiffert at jeiffert2@gmail.com

Webinar: DO NO HARM Transgender Inclusion in Faith Spaces

Friday, March 19 from 6-7:30pm via Webinar

This webinar invites faith communities to prophetically reimagine the Church as a place of healing, belonging, and liberation for transgender and gender-expansive people.

In a time when trans lives and families are under increasing pressure, the Church is called to respond with clarity, courage, and care. Together, they will explore practical and faithful ways to create spiritual spaces that are safe, brave, and deeply affirming communities where all people can thrive and live fully into their divine purpose. Register by clicking or scanning QR code.



Go AWOL this Winter—Adventurous Women Out Late



Friday, March 20 @5:30pm. Dinner and a movie

Bring an appetizer to share, then enjoy the movie "Rental Family" at church in the Heritage Room. An American actor in Tokyo (Brendan Fraser) struggling to find purpose lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese "rental family" agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. He rediscovers purpose,

belonging, and the beauty of human connection.... also starring Takehiro Hira and Mari Yamamoto

Reproductive Healthcare

Our Church Council recently adopted several UCC General Synod Resolutions. One includes affirming the right of all people to access reproductive health care and that the choice to have and care for children is a sacred decision which should not be forced on anyone. Parkway has facilitated several opportunities to learn more about the political, personal, medical and family well-being implications of this issue. We have one more coming up!

On **Saturday, March 21, 3-4:30pm**, Ruth Huebner, PhD in Psychology & former child welfare research consultant for the US Children's Bureau, will present and lead a discussion to build understanding of reproductive healthcare decisions in the context of families -- the possibility of medical complications, the long-term commitment of effective parenting, potential family challenges. RSVP to **827marianni@gmail.com** or click or scan QR code for all this program.



Spring Friendship Dinners

Spring is right around the corner, and so are Friendship Dinners. Sign up in The Gathering Space to be a host or guest. Hosts can also sign up to be a guest at another dinner. Dinner host volunteers should indicate how many guests they will invite. The Friendship Dinner team will organize the dinners at the end of March. The host provides the main dish, and guests bring a side dish or dessert. The host can also decide on a Dutch dinner at a local restaurant. Please click or scan QR code to register, or contact Cindy Wessel to sign up at **cindywessel@yahoo.com** by **March 22**



We will also have a Family Friendly Potluck for families with children. This will be held at the church playground after Sunday service on April 26. More details to follow.

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am "The Psychology of Gun Violence: How Smart Choices Can Save Lives," by Professor Janet S. Hyde.

March 22 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Professor Hyde's presentation will update the audience on the gun debate and other insightful views on the subject not generally known to the public. Among many accolades throughout her professional life, Professor Hyde received the Ernest R. Hilgard Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the American Psychological Association in 2016. She is also active in a national organization called "Every Town for Gun Safety." Please attend and keep yourself informed on matters that can be life or death. Our thanks to Nancy Litzinger for introducing Professor Hyde to the Speakers Series staff

Questions? Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**

Fun Items Needed for Easter Morning Egg Hunt!

During this year's Easter Morning Egg Hunt happening **April 5**, children will collect eggs filled with prize tickets, then visit a store to trade tickets for fun items! We're seeking new or like-new donations (valued at \$5 or less) for babies through 5th grade - no food, please. Ideas include books, fidget toys,

and other kid-friendly goodies. Please place donations in the "PUCC Egg Hunt" basket in the Gathering Space by **March 22**. Questions? Contact Ingrid Scharf at scharf.ingrid@gmail.com. Thank you!

Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone

Tuesday, March 24 | 3-5pm | New Sanctuary

Drop-in Prayer Time. Kevin will be in the Prayer Corner in the Sanctuary. Come on by if you'd like to pray together.

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

Upcoming dates:

Wednesday, April 29 from 6-8pm;

Monday, May 18 from 1-3pm;

Wednesday, June 17 from 9-11am

We can arrange a phone call or Zoom for another time if you'd like.

Just reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

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

Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731; Passcode: 792617

Please join us as we wrap up our discussion on the book *Dinners with Ruth* by NPR's Nina Totenberg on **March 24**. This book is a memoir and covers the author's experiences as a young reporter starting out and moves through her life including her long friendship with Ruth Bader-Ginsberg. Bring a dish to share for the pot luck & join us for our next book conversation! Newcomers 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.

Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Wednesday, March 25 | 2pm | Panera on Manchester Road in Des Peres

Join us for a beverage and sweet treat. Come connect! No need to RSVP - just show up!

Upcoming dates: Tuesday, May 12 at 2pm; Friday, April 17 at 10am;

Monday, June 29 at 7pm

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

2026 Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 28 | 9:30am | Parkway UCC

This hunt is open to the community. It is a fun and fast event that both kids and adults enjoy. Over 300 eggs are stuffed every year so we are looking for donations of both plastic easter eggs and candy. We need "fun bun" volunteers to both hide eggs outdoors, and inside helping with activities and taking photos. We also need someone to be the "Big Bun" this year. Sign-up either by click or scanning QR code or in the Gathering Space. Questions? contact the "fun bun crew" organizer, Karen Mariani ksmariani59@gmail.com



Easter Ferns for Sale

There will be 15 fern hanging baskets for sale to decorate the sanctuary on Easter. Please sign up on One Church, pay on the site or put \$20 in the collection plate with a notation of 'FERN'. The ferns may be taken home after worship on Easter morning. There will be not be a sign-up poster in The Gathering Space. Questions? Contact Carol Cobb ccjcoobb@aol.com

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday: March 29 at 10am. This is a Fifth Sunday of the month, so expect palms in the cross and something unique to celebrate this exciting day. The people said, "Who is this?" as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday: April 2 at 6pm. We will move with the disciples ... share a simple soup supper around tables in the Gathering Space, go into the sanctuary for scripture about communion and foot washing, sing a bit and then finish our evening outdoors like Jesus and the disciples did. (We are looking for a couple of people who would be willing to coordinate the supper.)

Good Friday Prayer Service: April 3 at noon in the Historic Sanctuary.

Good Friday Evening: April 3 at 7pm in the Sanctuary. We will hear Jesus ask, "God, why have you forsaken me?"

Easter Prayer Vigil from the close of Good Friday worship for 36 hours. We are asking for people to be our PUCC prayer partner in one hour slots. Please sign up by clicking or scanning the QR code.



Easter Sunrise: April 5 at 6:30am in the cemetery behind the Historic Sanctuary. The angels and Jesus ask the women some questions.

Easter Worship: April 5 at 10am. The women ask, "Who will roll the stone away for us?" and we wonder what the disciples will do next.

Questions? Please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org

Historic Cemetery Cleanup

Sunday, March 29 | 11:15am-1:30pm | 1930 Windmoor Pl, Town & Country, MO
Clean up the Historic Cemetery! It's an area that doesn't get a lot of attention but needs plenty of care. So, bring a weed walker, chain saw, leaf rake and some leaf bags that you can take home in your vehicle for a fun time of upkeeping a sacred part of our heritage. Questions? Reach out to Joe Biondo at jjbiondo19@gmail.com

Rally to Support Trans Day of Visibility Streetside demonstration; lunch provided

Sunday, March 29 | 12pm | Parkway UCC

Parkway UCC invites you to proclaim your support for Trans family members and friends along Ballas Rd/in front of the church. A light lunch of soup, bread, and cheese will be available. Bring your signs and palm branches, or use our signs! Wear pink/blue/white to show extra love! Scan or click QR code to RSVP for lunch count by **March 28**; no RSVP needed to hold signs.

(Trans Day of Visibility/ TDOV is celebrated worldwide on March 31 each year. See social media listings for other area events.)



March Eco Steward News

Our Pollinator Garden. Are you interested in gardening? Have you gardened for years or never gardened at all? We are looking for gardeners to help with our Pollinator Garden. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to learn. We are looking for interested people to help us maintain and expand our Native Garden area. Our planning and informational meeting will be on Monday, March 30 at 11:30 am in the Gathering Space. We hope to see you there.

Eco Stewards Earth-Day Plans. Please join us in the sanctuary, following service on **April 19** to see a beautiful slide show and presentation by Doug Tallamy. He'll share his own journey, turning long damaged farmland into ebullient, biodiversity without spending much money. Doug Tallamy is an entomologist and conservationist focused on native plants and biodiversity. Douglas Tallamy, author and professor of insects, conservation, and the environment, gives slide shows of his own research. He proposes expanding our national parks to our backyards. Yes, you are Nature's Best Hope. 71% of land in the lower 48 states is privately owned. We need nature to survive on our planet. It's a web of life. We must nurture it.

Five hints are:

1. Keystone plants host hundreds of insects and birds, turtles and frogs.
2. Turfgrass offers no ecological benefits.
3. Get rid of invasive plants in your yard. Invasive plants are ecological tumors, they spread like cancer.
4. Caterpillars are essential food for most baby birds. Caterpillars need specific host plants.
5. Outdoor lighting is a major cause of insect decline. Use motion sensors and use yellow light bulbs.

Respect MO Voters: Sign, Volunteer, Donate 60 Days to Get 100,000 Signatures!

Many have signed Respect MO Voter's petition for a ballot initiative to secure and strengthen the initiative petition process in Missouri which is currently under attack by our legislature. Our time is running out to get the required number of signatures and are in great need of volunteers and signatures immediately. This petition is nonpartisan. Will you give a few hours to help protect initiative petition rights for all Missouri voters? If we sit this one out, the right could be taken forever. If we act now, we can preserve it. Let's not look back and wish we would have done more. Please sign up at respectmovoters.org/join or contact Michelle Singer (mrsinger71@gmail.com) or Cindy Nouri (cynthianouri@gmail.com).

SAVE THE DATE Habitat for Humanity Workdays

On both of Parkway's UCC Habitat workdays, **July 11** and **August 1**, continue Parkway UCC's hands on support of 40 years of Habitat since our members were heavily involved in bringing it to St. Louis. More details to come. For more info, reach out to Tom McKenzie at mckenzie1947@att.net

Prayer List

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Celebrations

ONA Convocation here last weekend.

Women's History Month.

Concerns

Pat Owens - healing after hip surgery from a fall.

Marilyn McDougall - strengthening after appendectomy.

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

Dwyers - Leah's mother's serious head injury; Jeff's broken leg.

Rita Holly (Nouri) - waiting for a heart transplant (Cindy Nouri).

Michael Tappy - as he needs a heart transplant (Schmelig).

Ongoing chaos in the Middle East - including for the people of Iran.

The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.

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

US military and their families.

Continuing

Alex Wiseman - living with autoimmune challenges; new doctor appts.

Christopher Haack - healing of fractures and ligament injury in foot.

Diane Doty - hospice care after cancer diagnosis (Grant's mom).

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

Randy Cosby - healing as multiple myeloma has returned (Reinhardt).

Marilyn Zucker - healing after a fall and hip surgery (Litzinger).

Ed Calcaterra - optimistic as immune therapy commences (Litzinger).

Jeff Wentworth - nearing the end of his life; hospice care (Grove).

Senobia and Joe Martin - grieving their daughter; Joe is ill (Grove).

Derek - end stage alcoholism; grace for his father David (Akers).

Rebecca - continued healing after brain surgery (Bowermaster).

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.

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

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

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

Kathy - diagnosed with lymphoma; healing after surgery (Akers).

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

Kenton & Teal Blacksten - K's many health challenges due to diabetes

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 Vennerlo - awaiting a kidney transplant (McDougall).

Haack's doctor and his wife Christine - her ongoing health crisis.

Rebecca Ray - that her book on suicide prevention will be published.

Bill & Nancy Darland - his ongoing health issues.

Gail, Bill and Christopher Haack - chronic health challenges.

Home-Centered/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Lewis Junior Burcham - *The Glenwood*; 1635 N. Baltimore Ave #25; Mt. Zion, IL 62549; 217-864-1757 [birthday: January 15]

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

Sera, Wyatt Watkins & family as she is deployed until end of 2026.

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.

PUCF 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.

2nd Mile Lent & Easter 2026

Heifer International heifer.org

Heifer International does more than put food in the mouths of hungry people. Heifer helps people to feed themselves. The goal of every Heifer project is sustainability -- project partners achieving self-reliance. And year after year, as partner families “pass on the gift” of knowledge and one or more of their animals’ offspring to others in need, they become links in a network of hope, dignity and self-reliance that helps hundreds of others care for themselves.

Lydia’s House lydiashouse.org

Lydia’s House offers secure housing and immediate community for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. We have 50 confidentially located, fully furnished apartments where families can find refuge, safety and support. Our transitional housing is one of the largest in the country and the only program of its kind in eastern Missouri.

Each family at Lydia’s House is provided an advocate to help guide them through the process of recovering from abuse. All family members are connected to support services, including individual and group resources, to help them build the skills that are necessary not only for surviving but thriving in the wake of trauma.

UP - *Unleashing Potential* [formerly Neighborhood Houses] upstl.org

Neighborhood Houses has loved children in St Louis and helped resilient families to be even more so since 1913.

Strengthening Resilient Families: partners with families to strengthen their core foundation with sustainable resources to build stability. Our program focuses on building bridges between schools and families and empowering families with resources, education, and support to advance social-emotional and financial well-being while enabling children to focus on learning.

After School Programs: UP provides before and after school care for kids from Atlas Elementary (charter school), all elementary schools in the University City School District, and at Immanuel UCC for the

Ferguson/Florissant School District... fun & creative activities, homework assistance, character education, cultural awareness, health & fitness focus, arts & crafts, supervised recreation, and much more!

GeoQuest Program: expands access to education, hands-on learning, and skill training in geospatial technology for children in K-8 grades.

Bread for the World bread.org

We can end hunger in our time. Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Bread's mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

Food banks are essential - and we must focus on advocacy. Why?

Because federal nutrition programs provide roughly 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities combined. With the stroke of a pen, our government leaders have the power to create policies and programs that impact millions of people at once.

Our faith in Jesus is the foundation for our mission and compels us to love our neighbors near and far. We are led by the values of our faith to stand up for those experiencing hunger all over.

“Open your mouth for those who cannot speak, and for the rights of those who are left without help.” --Proverbs 31:8a

If you have a gift for 2nd Mile please mark it 2nd Mile.

Thank you.

Pro Voice Support Group on Zoom

In our current political climate, conversations about abortion - particularly for those who have had abortions personally - can feel overwhelming. This support group offers a confidential affinity space for those who have experienced abortion to share their stories and perspectives *without conditions or expectations*. ALL perspectives, emotions, and stories are welcome. This group is facilitated by a PUCCer with experience.

What Does it Mean to be Pro-Voice? In our society, conversations around abortion are highly polarized and emotionally charged, and often focus on systemic impact rather than individual stories. For those who have personally experienced abortion, it can be difficult to find stigma-free spaces to express the full range of possible feelings that may come with that experience-- relief, grief, gratitude, guilt, empowerment, regret, etc. A pro-voice model centers the needs and stories of those who have had abortions without requiring them to adopt a prescribed set of emotions or beliefs about their experience.

Who can attend this group? This space is open to anyone who has had an abortion at any point in their life. In order to ensure group confidentiality and safety, we ask that those who have not personally experienced abortion (e.g. family, partners, loved ones) to abstain from participating in this group.

How can I attend? For more information (including meeting info and logistics), please reach out via this form by scanning or clicking QR code:



An Honest Prayer

by Talitha Arnold

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears! For I am thy passing guest, a sojourner, like all my [forebears]. – Psalm 39:12 (RSV)

I wonder if Jesus prayed Psalm 39 in the Garden of Gethsemane. He would have known the songs of his people just as he knew the Torah and Prophets. Only a few hours later, he would cry out Psalm 22 from the empire's cross: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

So I wonder if that night, when he was alone, praying in the shadows of Gethsemane, Jesus remembered this psalm by someone who'd also found themselves lost in the valley of the shadow of death.

We don't know who that someone was. Tradition says King David, but it could have been anyone in deep distress, fearful of the future, certain only of life's transience. "Let me know my end," the psalmist cried. "Let me know how fleeting my life is!"

The psalmist was also honest about all human life. Our days last less than the fingers of one hand, the psalmist wrote, our lives fade as quickly as a shadow or a breath. We're all passing guests and strangers in a strange land.

Psalm 39 prays a hard prayer. Yet I wonder if the depth of the psalmist's honesty about life's transience offered some comfort to the 33-year-old Jesus that night. I wonder if it helped to know that someone else had felt as afraid and confused as he did. Perhaps knowing they had walked their own lonesome valley gave Jesus the strength to walk his.

I wonder if Psalm 39 can give us that strength, too.

Prayer

*Thank you, Lord, for hard prayers—and for the people who pray them.
Amen.*

Consider signing up to receive these UCC daily devotions
from our God is Still Speaking writers:

<https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>

