





www.parkwayucc.org

September 20, 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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Deb Reinhardt, *LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance* [lgbtfaithalliance@aol.com]

John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome to Parkway

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

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

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

Worship Serving Today

Scripture Reader is Gabriel Requadt.

Flowers given by The Church Council on this Ordination Day.

Treats provided by Ruth and Herb Huebner.

Our Prayer Chaplain this morning is Kari Borgmann.



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

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

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Mental Health Support

988 (new nationwide 3-digit number similar to 911... call or text)
24/7 Crisis Hotline 800-273-8255 (TALK) | 800-SUICIDE: 800-784-2433
24/7 Missouri Department of Mental Health 800-811-4760
Text 741741 and someone will text right back...www.crisistextline.org
Behavioral Health Network of Greater St Louis 314-449-6713
The numbers below are called Warmlines (not Hotlines).
They are peer run by people with lived experience.
Not all of them are 24/7/365
Teen Warm Line: 1 800-248-8336
Black Warm Line: 1-800-604-5841 (They are divested from the police)
Trans Warm Line: 1-877-565-8860
Project Return Warm Line: 1-800-448-9777 (run away)
Learn more about warm lines: <https://warmline.org/warmdir.html>

Birthdays

9/21 David Comens
9/21 Lydia Roesler
9/22 Leslie Tupper
9/23 Thad Stappenbeck
9/25 Dan Weas
9/25 Mike Mason
9/26 Sue Stolze

Anniversary

9/20 Kim & Dan Weas
9/20 Karla & Pete Shelton

16th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, September 20, 2026 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & YouTube Live
When you see the (*), please rise in body or spirit - depending on your comfort.

Prelude *Morning has Broken* for piano and violin solo
Arranged by Jame Michael Stevens | Ellen Krall, violin

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Meditation When we want to complain about the rain, we could feel its wetness instead. ~Pema Chödrön

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

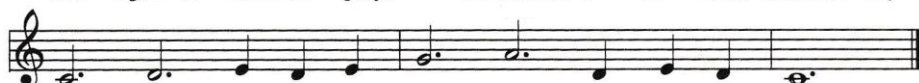
Welcome Song *Morning Has Broken* | #469, v1, 3 | Red Hymnal



1. Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the



spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

Scripture Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 | Common English Bible (CEB)

Give thanks to the Lord; call upon God's name; make God's deeds known to all people! Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord; dwell on all God's wondrous works! Give praise to God's holy name! Let the hearts rejoice of all those seeking the Lord! Pursue God and God's strength; seek God's face always! Remember the wondrous works God has done, all the marvelous works, and the justice God declared - you who are the offspring of Abraham, God's servant, and the children of Jacob, the chosen ones.

Then God brought Israel out, filled with silver and gold; not one of its tribes stumbled. Egypt celebrated when they left, because the dread of Israel had come upon them. God spread out clouds as a covering; gave lightning to provide light at night.

The people asked, and God brought quail; God filled them full with food from heaven. God opened the rock and out gushed water - flowing like a river through the desert! Because God remembered this holy promise to the servant Abraham. God brought the people out with rejoicing, the chosen ones with songs of joy. God gave them the lands of other nations; they inherited the wealth of many peoples - all so that they would keep God's laws and observe God's instructions. Praise the Lord!

***Call to Worship**

One: Come with your gratitude and your questions, your trust and your complaints. Come as you are.

Many: In the wilderness, the Israelites cried out in hunger, yet manna appeared where they least expected it.

One: Open our eyes to the gifts around us.

Many: We carry many images of God - provider, challenger, comforter, companion, instigator, guide...

One: Help us make room for a God who is greater than our images.

Many: Let us worship with wonder, ready to notice where God is present.

One: We come ready to receive.

All: Let us worship our God together - Creator, Christ and Spirit.

*Song *Bring Many Names*



1 Bring man - y names,	beau - ti - ful and good,	cel - e - brate, in
2 Strong moth - er God,	work - ing night and day,	plan - ning all the
3 Warm fa - ther God,	hug - ging ev - ery child,	feel - ing all the
4 Old, ach - ing God,	grey with end - less care,	calm - ly pierc - ing



par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God.
 won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e - qua - tion, gen - i - us at play:
 strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for - giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled:
 e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur - pris - es, wis - er than de - spair:



Hail and Ho - san - na!	bring man - y names!	great, liv - ing God!
Hail and Ho - san - na,	strong moth - er God!	
Hail and Ho - san - na,	warm fa - ther God!	
Hail and Ho - san - na,	old, ach - ing God!	

5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger,
 on the move,
 say - ing no to false - hood and
 un - kind - ness,
 cry - ing out for jus - tice,
 giv - ing all you have:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 young, grow - ing God!

6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing,
 clos - er yet than breath - ing,
 ev - er - last - ing home:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 great, liv - ing God!

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*Opening Prayer

God of wilderness and wonder, we bring you our gratitude, our questions, and even our complaints. Sometimes we cannot see Your provision until we look again. Help us examine the images we carry of You. Are You a God who blames and shames? Or a God who meets us with mercy and compassion? Open our hearts to the mystery of who You are, and our eyes to the manna already among us. Amen.

*Response *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;
 Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.
 Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!
 Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

Children's Time For children under the age of 3, parents are invited to take them to Room 06 (upper level) where one of our caregivers will meet them at the door. Older children and youth will be led to Room 12 (lower level) for the Opening Session after the Children's Time. Children from age 3 to 2nd grade will stay in Room 12, children from 3rd to 5th grade will go to Room 15, and youth from 6th to 12th grade will go to Room 16 for class. 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 *God, You Are Our God*



God, you are our God, and we will e-ver praise you. God, you are our

God, and we will e-ver praise you. we will seek you in the mor-ning, and

learn to walk in your ways, and step by step you'll lead us, we will

fol-low you all of our days.

Leadership Moment *Courageous Action: Contribution Ministry*

Scripture Exodus 16:2-15 | Common English Bible (CEB)

The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. The Israelites said to them, “Oh, how we wish that the Lord had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you’ve brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I’m going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I’ll test them to see whether or not they follow my instruction. On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days.”

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “This evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you will see the Lord’s glorious presence, because your complaints against the Lord have been heard. Who are we? Why blame us?” Moses continued, “The Lord will give you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning because the Lord heard the complaints you made. Who are we? Your complaints aren’t against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole Israelite community, ‘Come near to the Lord, because your complaints have been heard.’”

As Aaron spoke to the whole Israelite community, they turned to look toward the desert, and just then the glorious presence of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

The Lord spoke to Moses, “I’ve heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat. And in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening a flock of quail flew down and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the desert surface were thin flakes, as thin as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” They didn’t know what it was.

Moses said to them, “This is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

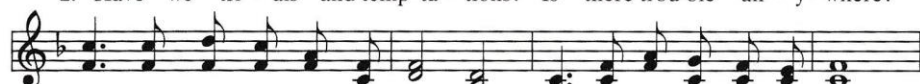
Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

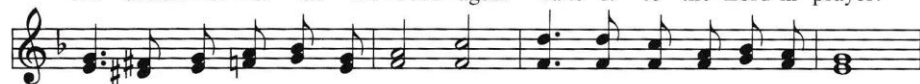
Time of Prayer *What a Friend We Have in Jesus #403 | Red Hymnal*



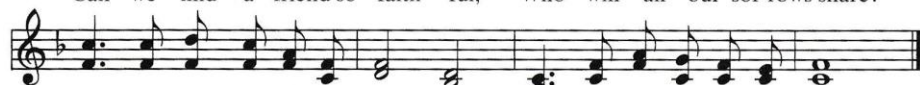
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?



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



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



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

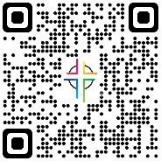
Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer

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

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

Mission Moment *The Longest Table* Deb Reinhardt

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 *Meditations on Converse*

Melody: Charles Crozat Converse, 1868 | Ellen Krall, violin

*Response *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* | #316, v1-2 | Red Hymnal



1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Un - til my
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, So shall I



life a - new, That I may love what Thou dost
heart is pure, Un - til with Thee I will Thy
whol - ly Thine, Till all this earth - ly part of
nev - er die, But live with Thee the per - fect



love, And do what Thou wouldst do.
will, To do and to en - dure.
me Glows with Thy fire di - vine.
life Of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude. Use them to provide for others - to become food, welcome, hope, and justice. Help us remember that your gifts do not always look the way we expect. Give us eyes to see them and hearts willing to share them. Amen.

***Song of Parting** *In the Midst of New Dimensions*

In the Midst of New Dimensions

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12–16; Exod. 13:21–22; Num. 14:14



1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,
3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
4 We are one and we are man - y all per-sua-sions, old and young,
5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,



Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?
Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

Refrain



God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea - gles soar, We your



peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Recercar on New Dimensions* for solo violin

Arranged by Aria Thomé | Ellen Krall, violin

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 **“Making a Home: Art, Design, and the Life You Choose,” by Renée Céleste Flanders**

TODAY - Sunday, September 20 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

This is our second “This Old House” Speakers Series program. Our guest, local artist Renée Céleste Flanders, tells the story of transforming a neglected house into a personal sanctuary through art, design, and an openness to possibility. Illustrated with renovation images and personal narrative.

Ms. Flanders is an artist and interior designer whose work emphasizes authenticity and thoughtful design. Her approach reflects a belief that beauty, when taken seriously, can shape how we live and experience our homes.

All programs are held in the Heritage Room, following worship and ending around 12:15pm. Grab a cup of coffee and a pastry and join us.

Questions or suggestions for a program? Richard Scherrer at 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Ordination Service for Gabriel Requadt - TODAY

You are cordially invited to the Ordination Service of Gabriel Requadt today, **Sunday, September 20, at 3pm**, here at Parkway UCC. All are welcome! Gabriel has accepted a position as the Senior Minister at Immanuel UCC in Sedalia, MO. There will be a reception afterwards. For any questions, or if you'd like to help, please reach out to Carol Cobb ccjcobb@aol.com

Fall Friendship Dinners Signup

It's time once again to schedule our Fall Friendship Dinners. You can sign up to be both a host and a guest, or just sign up to be a host or a guest. Please also indicate if you are interested in a kids included family-friendly potluck event to be held at the church. There is a sign-up poster on the bulletin board or you can sign up using this QR code. Please provide your contact information; hosts need to indicate how many guests they can accommodate. The deadline to sign up is today, **Sunday, September 20**.

The Friendship Dinner Committee will meet to organize the groups. Dinners are being planned for September, October, or November. IDEAS: host a potluck dinner, meet at a restaurant, or have an appetizer meal. For additional information or to sign up, please contact Kathy Burcham at kathleenburcham@sbcglobal.net



Coffee and Conversation at Panera

Monday, Sept 21 | 2pm | Panera on Manchester Rd, Des Peres by 270

Join us for a beverage and sweet treat.

Come connect! No need to RSVP - just show up!

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, Oct 20 at 2pm

Wednesday, Nov 11 at 10am

Monday, Dec 7 at 2pm

Wednesday, Jan 20 at 10am

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

Pen Pals Needed to Write LGBTQ Inmates in Missouri

The LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance is starting an initiative to write LGBTQ+ inmates in Missouri state prisons. The interfaith coalition, in response to news of trans inmates no longer having access to hormone replacements (HRT), this summer partnered with Black & Pink- description - an organization that advocates on behalf of incarcerated queer, trans, and HIV-positive individuals-and PROMO Missouri to write messages of encouragement.

Dozens of inmates have asked for a pen pal. Learn more about becoming a pen pal to an LGBTQ+ inmate during an upcoming training, **7pm on Monday, September 21** by Rev. Jason Lydon, a Unitarian Universalist minister and movement leader based in the greater Chicago area. To receive the Zoom link, please RSVP to Jeanette Mott Oxford of the Prison Ministry Team at Epiphany United Church of Christ. Zer email is

jmo.mott.oxford@gmail.com

Tuesday Evening Dialogue is MED (Monday) this Week Only

Monday, September 21 | 6:45-8pm | Zoom only just this time - hybrid later

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84942344514?pwd=ID2JOC6p04AXyGiuOZzjaKul8uXvoZ.1> Meeting ID: 849 4234 4514 | Passcode: 861816

Please note day change for our next TED!

The next TED meeting will be changed from Tuesday, September 22 to Monday, September 21 and it will be on ZOOM *only*. It will start at 6:45 pm.

We will not meet in person for this one session. We will go back to hybrid.

We will be wrapping up our discussion on the novel *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. This novel starts with what seems to be an ordinary day, however everyone in the world opens their front door that day to find a small wooden box. This box holds your fate inside: the answer to the exact number of years you will live. In an instant, the world is thrust into a collective fantasy. The author introduces complex characters whose decisions and lives interweave with one another. This book is described as an enchanting, uplifting and invigorating story about family, friendship, hope and destiny that encourages us to live life to the fullest.

Please join us on ZOOM on Monday, September 21 at 6:45 pm for social time. Book discussion starts at 7 pm and we will discuss the last third of this book from page 230 *Chapter Jack* to end.

Questions? Please reach out to Helen Race at raceh@att.net

Women of Faith Supper with Interfaith Partnership STL

Thursday, September 24 | 6-8pm | 717 Weidman Rd, Ballwin, MO



You are invited to the Women of Faith Supper at the Mahatma Gandhi Cultural Center of Saint Louis. We will focus on “The Origin of and Respect for Women’s Dignity,” a panel discussion featuring representatives from the Hindu, Baha’i, and Ahmadiyyah Muslim traditions. The conversation will explore the historical and spiritual roots of women’s dignity across these faiths, and how respect for women’s roles continues to be a shared value in interfaith

dialogue. Register and learn more through the QR code.

Prayer Corner an opportunity to pray with someone

Friday, September 25 | 6:30-8:30am | 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:

Saturday, Oct 10 from 8-10am

Tuesday, Nov 17 from 3-5p

Monday, Dec 14 from 7-9pm

Wed, Jan, 2027 13 from 10am-12pm

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

Go AWOL this Fall - Adventurous Women Out Late

Come build connections with women this fall with some fun upcoming events!

- Saturday 9/26: “Little Women” at The Rep - Carpool from church at 3pm (show at 4pm). \$30. Ten tickets total. Register through QR code.
- Sunday 10/18: Harvest Festival at Tower Grove Park - Carpool after church.
- Friday 11/13: Dinner out
- Sunday 12/13: Allegro—More details to come in early November.



For more info, contact Carmen Bumgarner **cfbum@charter.net**

St Louis Metro CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, September 27 | 1:30pm | 475 E Lockwood Ave, Webster Groves

The annual SL Metro CROP Hunger walk is rapidly approaching. Parkway UCC has consistently been a leading supporter of the walk which is greatly appreciated. CROP Hunger Walks are held in over 500 communities raising millions to eradicate hunger and poverty in over 35 countries. 25% of the funds raised stay locally to fight hunger and this year will be donated to Circle of Concern, Webster Rock Hill Ministries and a new organization, Growing Food Growing People. The remaining 75% supports the global mission of

Church World Service (CWS) to reduce hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Please join us either in person or virtually to walk, give and change the world, one step at a time. Use the QR code to donate or join the Parkway UCC team. For more info, reach out to Pam Manning **pmanning5078@gmail.com**



Volunteers needed for The Longest Table Dinner

This fall, on **Wednesday, September 30** from 6:30-8pm during Good Neighbors Week, we are joining St. Louis Anti-Violence Project in their region-wide Belonging Campaign by participating in The Longest Table. Check in begins at 6pm. This coordinated community dining event is designed to encourage neighbors to sit down together for a catered meal, leave politics and professions at the door, and focus purely on shared humanity and mutual support. While adults engage in small-group discussions facilitated by trained volunteer table captains, children and teens will receive curated belonging kits. Are you interested in learning more about this free event? Check out this website to learn more and register: www.stlavp.org/the-longest-table. We hope to see you there!

Come Join TAD for Zoom Book Club of Troublesome Women

1st & 3rd Tuesday | 1:45pm fellowship | 2:00-3:00pm discussion

Zoom Link (312) 626-6799; Meeting ID: 898 7822 0593; Passcode: 393204

We'll start our next book on October 6th, *The Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Bostwick. The book follows four suburban housewives in 1963 Northern Virginia who form an impromptu book club called "The Bettys" after reading Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*. The book has 360+ pages, so we'll read around 120 pages every two weeks.

We'd love to have you join us on Zoom on October 6! Feel free to stop in at 1:45pm for fellowship before the book discussion starts. For more info, reach out to Jackie Eiffert jeiffert2@gmail.com

Parkway Cooks Swing into Action

As you may remember, after the May 2025 Tornado, many St. Louis residents in North St. Louis were made homeless. A group called 314 Oasis was formed through grants to help citizens with home repair advice, housing, and food. A group of Parkway UCC members volunteered to assist with some lunches for forty clients this fall. Including Linda Tossing, Kris McKenzie, Deborah Reinhardt, Diane Brost, Harold Cobb and myself. Our first day to provide a meal is **October 9**. We will gather at 9:30am in the Parkway kitchen to assemble some hearty sandwiches, sides, fruit, and, of course, brownies from our own Sweet Bakers.

Please join us in making sandwiches, slicing tomatoes, and putting lunches together in paper bags. A group will head down to their offices on Delmar to help serve around 10:50am. If you wish to help, we will need a case of bottled water, 40 bananas, 40 apples, 48 assortment of small bags of chips. If you can assist with any of these donations, please contact Carol Cobb ccjcobb@aol.com. We have some donations from Parkway members, but appreciate additional help. Other lunch prep days include Nov 13 and Dec 11.

WISE: A United Church of Christ Ministry

Our church is looking at the designation of WISE church as set forth by our UCC (WISE = Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged)
Our team will be reaching out to you with opportunities to participate in this journey. More to come!
Questions? Contact jogroveo8@gmail.com; kevin@parkwayucc.org

Parkway Adventurers Off to Melvin Price Lock and Dam

Tuesday, September 29 | 9:45am carpool from Parkway UCC

The free tour begins at 11:00 am and we need to arrive around 10:45am. Since it is about an hour drive at that time of the morning we will need to leave the church at 9:45am. The tour itself takes about 45 minutes and there is some walking involved. We will dine at a fine dining establishment nearby. We need to make reservations as soon as possible so rsvp asap to Carol Cobb ~

Cobster70@gmail.com

** Please note that due to increased security measures, no bags or purses are allowed. All adults will need to show a valid driver's license, state id or military id*

Habitat for Humanity We Need Your Help

Habitat St. Louis has committed to the construction of 40 adjacent to the tornado affected area of St. Louis. We need finances to do these jobs and people to come and build them. We need managers to lead. Experience is not necessary. Habitat will find a job for you and train you to do it if needed.

Be part of Parkway's long and productive history with Habitat for Humanity St. Louis. For more info on how you can help, contact our own Tom McKenzie **mckenzie1947@att.net** or go to **<https://www.habitatstl.org/>**

Planting Seeds Initiative

Hopefully, you have had a chance to review the materials for this initiative on contributing to Parkway's future. Materials about all of this are in the Gathering Space.

Questions: See Mark Sableman, Kris Impastato, or Sally Dodge at **msableman@att.net**, **kristina.impastato@gmail.com**, **s.dodge@hotmail.com**

ECO Stewards ~ September

A monthly piece from our PUCC Team committed to sustainability of our earth Eco Stewards would like to bring your attention to Starbucks cold cup recycling. Starbucks is the world's largest coffee chain, serving millions of customers at more than 40,000 stores worldwide. About 75% of Starbucks' U.S. beverage sales are cold drinks, most often served in polypropylene (No. 5 plastic) cups, generating an enormous amount of waste.

A little background info: On February 2, 2026, Starbucks published a press release with WM (the country's largest waste hauler, formerly known as Waste Management) and three recycling groups announcing that polypropylene (No. 5 plastic) was now considered "widely recyclable" in the United States - a designation issued by How2Recycle that is not vetted by state or federal regulators. "Recycling your Starbucks cold cups just got easier," Starbucks said, noting that the designation meant that over 60% of U.S. households can now recycle the company's cold to-go cups in their curbside recycling bins.

FACT: The U.S. recycling rate for plastics is under 6%, and the bulk of the plastic material making up that number is PET (No. 1 plastic) bottles and HDPE (No. 2 plastic) bottles and jugs.

Despite Starbucks claim, upon further investigation:

Beyond Plastics conducted a three-month nationwide tracker investigation (January to March 2026) to test Starbucks' claim that its single-use polypropylene (No. 5 plastic) cold beverage cups are recyclable.

Not a single tracked cup ended up at a recycling facility.

Ultimately, Beyond Plastics placed 53 Bluetooth-enabled trackers inside Starbucks' in-store recycling bins in 35 Starbucks locations across nine states and Washington, D.C. Thirty-six of the 53 trackers provided data, which is typical for tracker investigations. The rest were likely damaged in the trash bin or en route. None of the 36 trackers pinged from an actual recycling facility. Instead, the trackers ended up in landfills, waste-transfer stations, incinerators, or materials recovery facilities (MRFs).

The coffee company said it couldn't control the entire process or what happens after customers leave the store. But suddenly, it announced that it would start using compostable cups for cold drinks. Both the cups and lids are made of fiber-based paper board with a bioplastic liner. The new cups were rolled out across 14 states. There are no immediate plans to expand the rollout to the rest of the country.

In the meantime, environmentalists say the best thing to do is bring your own cup and Starbucks will make your drink in it.

Please consider this petition that asks Starbucks to implement a nation-wide switch from plastic to fiber based compostable cups.

https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/starbucks-cups?clear_id=true

Consider a Committee *Two Ways to Get Involved at PUCC!*

We are seeking two people who'd like to help support the work of the church. *Personnel Relations Committee:* Help connect our non-pastoral staff, Council and congregation, including assisting with job descriptions and staff reviews. Experience in HR or working with staff is helpful.

Tenant Relations Committee: Help coordinate with the groups, individuals and organizations who use our church space and match their needs with our available facilities. Experience with real estate or rental contracts is helpful.

Interested? Please reach out to Lana Biondo, Nancy Litzinger, Deborah Reinhardt or Emma Zyriek-Rhodes of our Leadership Commission. nancylitzinger@gmail.com

PUCC Scam Alert

Important Notice: We understand that a fresh batch of scam/phish messages are being sent to PUCCers. Ugh! No PUCC staff member will ever reach out via email, text or social media to ask for financial help. If you receive a request appearing to be from PUCC staff requesting financial help or other personal information - or any suspicious message - please don't click on any links or engage with the sender. You may want to report this to your email service provider or the appropriate social media service. Block texts from scammers/phishers. Also, keep your antivirus/anti-malware software up to date for protection. Questions? Concerns? Need clarification? Reach out to our staff via contact@parkwayucc.org or 314-872-9330.

ERICK GABRIEL REQUADT - ORDINATION WORD SEARCH

call; christ; church; covenant; faith; discernment; grace; justice; love;
ministry; mckendree; ordination; parkway; prayer; requadt; sacrament; joy;
shaine; service; seminary; spirit; ucc; welcome; witness; eden; sedalia; gabriel;
magic the gathering

*May Gabriel's ministry be rooted in faith, shaped by community, guided by
the Spirit, and lived in the work of love and justice.*

G H J L M P R A Y E R C H N J M N S G R A C E
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Prayer List

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Celebrations

Gabriel Requadt - called to be pastor at Immanuel UCC, Sedalia, MO;
Ordination here at 3pm TODAY - Sunday, September 20 - all are invited!

Concerns

Evelyn Buretta - healing after fall and multiple broken bones in AZ.
Acacia Health Ctr at Sagewood; 4555 E Mayo Blvd; Phoenix AZ 85050
John/Joyce Ruiz Family - mourning his oldest brother; mem svc 9/14
Jean Mueller - healing after eye surgery.
Yakel Family - dealing with multiple losses/griefs.
Sharon Thiemann - cancer surgery this week (Litzinger).
Barb McGrew - open-heart surgery at Cleveland Clinic (McMillon).
The floods in Nepal and Tibet - grief, recovery, healing, hope.
Ongoing chaos in the Middle East, Ukraine and Russia.
US military and families - **Sera Watkins** and **Anthony Williams**.

Continuing

Alex Wiseman - living with autoimmune challenges.
Lori Connors - ongoing health concerns and challenges.
Cindy and Ralf Wessel and family - grief.
Carole Gwyn - ongoing health issues (David's mother).
Judy Brueggemann - continuing health challenges (Brad's mother).
Jonathan - healing after head trauma during mission in Iran (Beck).
Regina Santos Avila - that she feels love and light (Wagner-Muns).
Lorraine and Dick Lewis - healing, strength, stamina (Litzinger).
John "Pink" Floyd and family - as he receives cancer treatments.
Bob & Jan - health, wholeness, peace, joy (Laura Waite's grandparents).
Laura Gywauli - living with acute myeloma leukemia (Reinhardt).
Randy Cosby - healing as multiple myeloma has returned (Reinhardt).
Jeff Wentworth - nearing the end of his life; hospice care (Grove).
Derek - end stage alcoholism; grace for his father David (Akers).
Rebecca - continued healing after brain surgery (Bowermaster).
Phil & Amy, daughter B - loving one another thru his cancer journey.
Mark McKenzie - for healing, clarity, refreshment (Tom's brother).
Emi - 5 year-old with Children's Hospital for chemo (McConnell).
Kenton & Teal Blacksten - K's many health challenges due to diabetes
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).
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 - *Liberty Village*, 6955 State Route 162, Room 302B, Maryville, IL 62062; 618-900-3624 [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 - 3723 Hickory House Lane; StL, MO 63125; 557-243-5699; 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.
Our St Louis neighbors finding their way after May ’25 tornado
All lawfully present non-permanent refugees who were legally resettled in the US prior to January 2025 who have lost their SNAP food benefits (May 1) and will lose their Medicaid benefits (October 1). They will also lose eligibility for ACA Marketplace subsidies (January 2027) because their Green Card applications have been paused (Livengood).
Peace and Justice near and far.
US Military around the globe.
Uganda and The Congo in a time of Ebola.
Prayer Chaplain Ministry here at Parkway UCC.

I Got the Message

Kenneth L. Samuel

On the first day of the week, we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight. There were many lamps in the upstairs room where we were meeting. Seated in a window was a young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on. - Acts 20:7-9a (NIV)

We might as well admit it: church can be awfully boring at times. Our spirit to remain fully present and engaged in the service and in the sermon may be willing, but sometimes, our flesh is weak. At times our minds begin to wander, we gaze out of a window or lose ourselves in the mosaic of stained glass. Our eyelids get heavy, our shoulders slump, our head tilts, and before we even realize it, we have abandoned the service and the sermon for the land of sweet slumber.

The young man, Eutychus, in the Book of Acts is not the first or the last disciple who simply could not endure a sermon that seemed to have no end. Even the midnight hour itself did not signal Paul to conclude his address, pronounce the benediction, and dismiss the people to their rest. Eutychus tried to hang in there, but he dozed off, fell into a deep sleep, and fell out of a third-floor windowsill.

But even though he dropped out of the service, Eutychus didn't miss God's message. On the ground where he had fallen, he was embraced, revived and restored by an agent of God, the Apostle Paul. God used the fall of Eutychus to give vivid illustration to the gospel message that Paul had been trying to preach all night long.

And when the young man who had fallen had been brought back to life by the loving, life-giving embrace of God, everybody got the message. Any of us who have ever fallen and experienced the renewing, reviving, regenerating embrace of God, get the message. The gospel of Christ is not just about what we hear. The gospel is also about what we experience. We may miss the service and the sermon, but God will see to it that we get the message.

Prayer: *Lord, we thank you for the sermons we hear, but we are most grateful for the sermons we live. Thank you for the message of resurrection. Amen.*

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

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

