PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS

LIMITLESS LOVE
COURAGEOUS ACTION
SPIRITED INQUIRY

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Happening Before Sunday

Loving the Penicos and Eifferts
Saturday, June 28 | 8:30-10:45am | Forest Park - Upper MUNY Lot

Join us for the ALS Association Walk!
Every 90 minutes a person in this country is diagnosed with ALS and every 90 minutes another person will lose their battle against this disease. ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic boundaries. That's why we're participating in the Walk to Defeat ALS. To bring hope. To raise awareness. To provide resources and services to families free of charge. To help unlock the mystery of ALS and find the key to treatments and a cure. Will you join us? Please consider walking on our team, making a financial contribution and/or remembering Kenton Eiffert and Steve Penico and their families in your

prayers this weekend. Click here to register for the walk - 'PUCC - Loving the Penicos and Eifferts' is our team name. Registration begins at 8:30am; Walk starts at 10am It is fun to hang out together in the shade before the brief walk begins.

Worship With Us this Sunday, June 29

Worship with us at 10am this Sunday! Join us here at PUCC or on YouTube Live here (@parkwayuccstl)... or participate later on YouTube or find a link on our Facebook page – **parkwayunitedchurchofchrist**. [Click here for a short video highlighting the steps for how to watch the Worship Service through YouTube.]

You may recall that Easter coincided with Earth Day this year... so we waited until this Sunday, the fifth Sunday of June, to celebrate Creation Care Sunday... next Sunday we will focus on LGBTQ+ Pride and our Open and Affirming Covenant as we close out Pride Month on Tuesday.

Our Psalm this Sunday is Psalm 8 that declares awe and gratitude for creation and speaks of the responsibilities God gives us to care for it. The Gospel lesson from Matthew 6:25-34 helps us find perspective and direction as we look at the birds of the air and the flowers of the earth.

Our children/youth will offer a skit during the Children's Time. We will have a Mission Moment from Lux Rooney of *Beyond Plastics*.

Worship bulletin here!

Songs include: *For the Beauty of the Earth; The Climate is Changing; Spirit of the Living God; The Farmer Plants the Seeds; We Plow the Fields and Scatter; O God, the Great Wide Seas are Yours*

Plan to stay after worship for a free screening of the 76-minute film *Microplastic Madness* about a two-year journey of 4th and 5th graders in

Brooklyn, New York. A complimentary lunch will be included! This film is also great for families and students of all levels! Please rsvp to our *Eco Stewards* https://pucc.onechurchsoftware.com/events/12556/info (see full invitation below)...
Eco Stewards are looking for someone to run the popcorn machine as people gather for the movie. We have all the supplies. It's not a complicated process. If you are interested, please reach out to pollyrutherford@gmail.com

🔍NURSERY HIRING NOTICE🔍

While it is our PUCC practice not to hire church members as staff, please feel free to pass this job posting along to others:

We're hiring two Childcare Providers!

Parkway UCC, a progressive, joyful and social justice minded congregation, is looking for warm, responsible, and energetic Childcare Providers on Sunday mornings from 8:50am–12:20pm. We offer childcare for our little ones (ages 0–3) during 10am worship and support families of children through 5th grade so they can fully participate in the life of the church before and after worship.

Must be 18+, experienced with children, CPR certified (or willing to be), and able to pass a background check.

Please submit a **cover letter** and **resume** to employment@parkwayucc.org by **June 29**

Worship Serving Opportunities

Worship is made possible with our wonderful volunteers!
Contribute flowers for worship service - click here
Sign up to be a lay reader or provide refreshments after worship - click here
Consider joining a Sunday Serving Group - click here
Contact Gabriel in the office at 314-872-9330 ext. 101 for assistance

Nursery Sunday Hours

Besides during worship, the Nursery is also open before worship from **9:00–10:00am** and after worship from **11:15am–12:15pm** *(*on Sundays when we have a Speaker Series or other need for extended care) for infants and kids through 5th grade. There will be a Speaker Series event this Sunday, so if you're a parent, the nursery will be open for your kids if you want to attend that. We got you covered!
For more info, please contact me at gabriel@parkwayucc.org

Prayer List Updates as of June 27

Laine Alison Markalynn Sableman - born to Shantel & Paul and big sister Lillie on 6/19… grandparents Lynn and Mark Sableman.
LGBTQ+ Pride Month - Pridefest St Louis this weekend.
Ben McDougall - healing after surgery on June 25.
John & Dottie Dwyer - doing well after his recent heart procedure.
Peggy & Jack Sieber - her new knee recuperation; some complications
Pat Owens - strengthening after respiratory issues.
Rick - chemotherapy continuing plus an additional treatment on June 23 that is requiring close monitoring for ten days (Laura Waite's dad).
Judy Brueggemann - new health challenges (Brad's mother).
Elaine - cancer treatments starting soon (Melanie Muchnick's mom).
Richard - treatments for congestive heart failure (Greg Schmelig's dad).
Lazette Nichols - struggling with shingles (Cindy Levin's mom).
Kenton & Teal Blacksten - K's many health challenges due to diabetes (Akers).
Ongoing chaos and grief in the Middle East.
The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.
Our StL neighbors after the tornado last month.

Drivers Needed

From time to time, PUCCers are in need of rides to medical appts when their usual circle of support is unavailable. Some in our church family also need help getting to worship. Please let kevin@parkwayucc.org know you are willing to help. You will be added to the list of potential drivers and will receive an email once we have a request for a ride.

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PUCC Announcements

microplastic madness

Microplastic Madness Free Screening—Discussion Afterward
Sunday, June 29 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Please join us for a free screening of the Microplastic Madness film documenting a two-year journey of 4th and 5th grader students at Public School 15 in Brooklyn, NY. who addressed plastic and Styrofoam pollution at their school cafeteria. Armed with citizen science research, interviews with scientists, and community engagement, these students were the force behind legislation that banned Styrofoam from all public schools in New York City in 2015. Runtime will be 76 minutes. Lunch will be included! Click here to register.

Presenting the film and leading a discussion will be our guest, Luz Rooney. Luz is the co-founder of Beyond Plastic, for the Missouri/Wisconsin chapter and a Climate Reality Trained Leader.

Please see a link to the documentary's official trailer **here**.

This film is also great for families and students of all levels. Kids, please bring your parents! Questions? Please contact Polly Rutherford **pollyrutherford@gmail.com**

Adventurous Men Out Early
"AMOE" meets this **Thursday, July 3** at 9:15am in the Heritage Room. All are welcome. We always meet on the first Thursday of the month at the same time and place. For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**

Showing of *Sally*

Sunday, July 13 | 6:15pm | Heritage Room

The ONA Team presents a showing of the documentary, *Sally*. The film from National Geographic tells the story of Sally Ride, the first American woman to blast off into space. But beneath her unflappable composure, she carried a secret. Revealing the romance and sacrifices of their 27 years together, Sally's life partner, Tam O'Shaughnessy, tells the full story of this complicated and iconic astronaut for the first time. We close out our Pride observance for 2025 with this award-winning documentary. Popcorn and other snacks will be part of the fun, so come with a friend (or two)! For more info contact Debbie Reinhardt at **deborahreinhardt@att.net**

PUCC Youth Mission Week 2025 – Saint Louis, Here We Come!

July 20–24 | 🕊️ Local. Impactful. Life-Changing.

God is doing a new thing—and you're invited to be part of it!

We're serving our **city, community, and church** through hands-on projects, powerful speakers, and meaningful fun. Here's a quick rundown for the week will go:

⛪ **Sunday, July 20** - Get commissioned, go grocery shopping, Habitat for Humanity tour, sleepover at church

🦅 **Monday, July 21** - World Bird Sanctuary, nature walk at Powder Valley and nature drive through Lone Elk Park

🌽 **Tuesday, July 22** - Circle of Concern, Saint Louis Area Foodbank, Romeo & Zooliet, sleepover at church

PUCC Night at the Cardinals

Thursday, July 24 | 6:45pm | Busch Stadium

Join Us for a Cardinals Game! As a fun endcap to our Youth Mission Experience week, we're inviting the congregation to join us for a FREE St. Louis Cardinals game vs. the San Diego Padres on Wednesday, July 24! Come cheer on the Cardinals, share fellowship, and celebrate the incredible work our youth have done. There are 12 tickets left, so click here to

🏳️‍🌈 **Wednesday, July 23** - STL Metro Umbrella Group, Emmaus Homes

⚾ **Thursday, July 24** - Unleashing Potential, Isaiah 58, **Ends with PUCC Night at Cardinals Game!**

Questions? Email gabriel@parkwayucc.org

ADULTS – WE NEED YOU TOO! Want to help or chaperone? Let us know!

Let's make this a week to remember. 💪

reserve yours! Let's play ball together! *(note: if you're a part of the youth mission experience and you've already confirmed with Gabriel that you or your kids are going, you don't need to get another ticket.)*

AWOL

Adventurous Women Out Late

Adventurous Women Out Late 2025

Come build relationships with other PUCCers in the New Year.

We are building our calendar for the summer and fall. Ideas? Just send me what you'd like to do! ~ Carmen Bumgarner cfbum@charter.net

Saturday, July 26: A New Expression of Pride & Prejudice: A Musical at the Kirkwood Theater. Join us for AUSTEN'S PRIDE! Jane Austen's most beloved tale is reimagined when the esteemed author begins her own journey of self-discovery. As the stormy romance between Elizabeth Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy unfolds in a fresh narrative, Austen gains new insights into both her creations and her own identity. AUSTEN'S PRIDE presents Pride and Prejudice as never before, blending wit and wisdom with a gorgeous original score that whisks audiences away to an era rich with passion and longing. Click here to register. Cost is $65. There are 6 tickets -- we can see about getting more as needed.

Question? Contact Carmen Bumgarner at cfbum@charter.net

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Recurring PUCC Events

TED

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

Tuesday Evening Dialogue—Off for Summer

TED will be on summer break starting July 1. Most likely we will be back on schedule on August 12. For questions, please contact

TAD

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

1st & 3rd Tuesday | 1:45pm fellowship | 2:00-3:00pm discussion Zoom Link (312) 626-6799; Meeting ID: 836 7061 7428; Passcode: 480007

Helen Race at raceh@att.net.

Prayer Corner: an opportunity to pray with someone
Tuesday, July 29 | 6-8pm | 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.

Please join us on Zoom **July 1 and July 15** for discussion of the book *That Librarian: The Fight Against Book Banning in America*. At each meeting we'll gather at 1:45 on Zoom to check in with each other and get to know each other better, and then discuss the book in thirds, one third of the book at each meeting. Read more **here**.

For more info, please contact Jackie Eiffert **jeiffert2@gmail.com**

Coffee and Conversation at Panera
Wed, July 16 | 10am | Panera on Manchester Rd, Des Peres

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

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

Upcoming dates:
Sat, Aug 16 from 7-9am;
Mon, Sept 22 from 4-6pm

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

Upcoming dates:
Fri, Aug 22 at 2pm;
Wed, Sept 24 at 2pm

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

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Other PUCC News Around the Bend

Help PROMO Missouri
We need
Volunteers

Canvassing Support

Call for volunteers to support PROMO Missouri
PROMO, Missouri's LGBTQ+ advocacy group, is canvassing House Districts 96, 100, and 101 in June. Parkway UCC will host on June 21 and 28.

Canvassers will speak with residents in Ballwin, Chesterfield, Crestwood, Fenton, Ladue, Manchester, and Sunset Hills about issues like healthcare access for trans Missourians. Volunteers are needed to drive canvassers and to provide light lunches, water, and snacks at the church.
No experience is needed to canvass — training and support are provided. Sign up here.

To help with hospitality or driving, contact Deb Reinhardt at deborahreinhardt@att.net.

Parkway UCC ONA-Related Groups
These are difficult times in our state and country for LGBTQIA2S+ — especially for transgender — citizens. Maybe you've said to yourself, "I wish there was something I could do to help." Well, there is something.

There are two groups offered at Parkway UCC to connect members who are interested in advocating for LGBTQ+ people. The first is the **Mission Ongoing—ONA Open and Affirming Group**. Members of this group will receive updates on legislation pertaining to LGBTQ+ Missourians and related actionable items, notices of meetings (virtual or in-person) happening around the area, news updates from transgender journalist and writers, and other resources. This group is intended to help organize PUCC advocates. Learn more here.

The second group is the **LGBTQ+ Faith Alliance**. It includes representatives from 30 faith traditions across the St. Louis metropolitan area and meets monthly in-person or virtually. Learn more here.

For more information, contact Deb Reinhardt
deborahreinhardt@att.net

Habitat for Humanity®

Saint Louis

SAVE THE DATE: Habitat for Humanity Project
Saturday, July 12 | 7:45am-3:30pm | Metro Saint Louis

Parkway UCC is doing our annual Habitat for Humanity housing building project on Saturday, July 12. Help build a home for a family who would not be able to purchase one otherwise. Clients purchase the home. This is not a giveaway. Click **here** to register. Donate to the STL Habitat for Humanity **here**. For more info, contact Tom McKenzie at **mckenzie1947@att.net**

OUR MUSIC MINISTRY
As we continue to develop our partnership with Amy Freeman as our organist/pianist, we're seeking more people to be a part of our music

program. We're looking for individuals willing to sing a solo, duet, trio or to sing with a group and/or to sing with the First Sunday Choir each first Sunday of the month at 9am. We're also gathering names of instrumentalists who'd share their talents in worship, and those interested in joining a hand chime choir. Please reach out to amy@parkwayucc.org today.

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Community Happenings

SLSO Tornado Relief Concert Support North STL Recovery through Music
Sunday, June 29 | 3pm | The Fabulous Fox

Join the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, IN UNISON Chorus, and St. Louis Symphony Chorus for an afternoon of powerful music and community healing—a special performance supporting those most affected by the May 16 tornado.

Pay what you wish. More info and register **here**.

Earth Walk 2025 To Benefit Tornado Relief A Jazz Ecology Concert
Sunday, June 29 | 3pm | 10 W. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves will hold its fourth Earth Walk concert and mixed media event. Subtitled “A Jazz Ecology Concert," Earth Walk will feature:

- Jazz music from The Oîkos Ensemble, led by Rev. Cliff Aerie, author of the program
- Dr. Michael Wysession, Professor of Geophysics at Washington University
- Dr. Kathryn Haydon, Plant Scientist and Independent Literary Scholar
- First Church’s Pastor, Rev. Dave Denoon

These presenters will celebrate our ecological interrelations via jazz, scientific interpretation, and poetic reflection. The program will be followed by a Q&A with refreshments.

In previous years, Earth Walk served to raise funds for MICA, FCCWG’s Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts. However, given the devastation of the May 16 tornado on the area, this year’s event will raise funds for tornado relief in St. Louis. Admission is free with a free will offering.

To learn more, reach out to First Congregational Church Office Administrator Adam Levin at admin@firstchurchwg.org or call the church office at **314-962-0475**

ADVOCATING FOR LGBTQ+ INCLUSION AND JUSTICE SINCE 1972
OPEN
AND
AFFIRMING
COALITION
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2025 Open and Affirming National Gathering
July 9, 2025 @ 12:00PM — July 10, 2025 @ 7:00PM
Kansas City Downtown Marriott: 200 W 12th St KCMO, MO 64105

The 2025 National Gathering is a call to affirm faith, build resilience, and celebrate progress in the face of escalating attacks on LGBTQ+ rights, uniting communities to worship, organize, and fight for justice.

Read more and register [here]

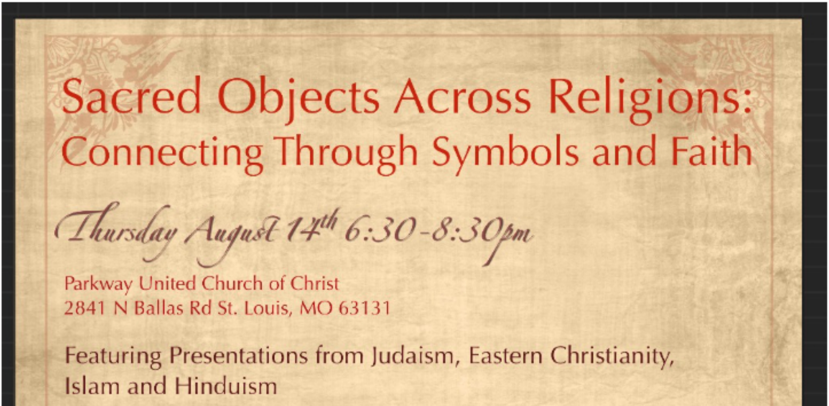
Isaiah 58
MINISTRIES
Cares

Summer Opportunity with Isaiah 58 Back to School Fair

Saturday, July 26 | 10am-12:30pm | 2149 S. Grand Blvd, Saint Louis, MO 63104

Adults and youth are invited to host activities for children and youth for the Isaiah 58 Back to School Fair. Bring your own activity or use one from the Fair organizers. Students look forward to this day of fun and receive a backpack with gifts of school supplies for the upcoming school year 2025. Help make this day memorable for students in our neighborhoods. Click here to register for free!

For more info, email Evelyn Buretta at burettaevelyn@gmail.com



Sacred Objects Across Religions: Connecting Through Symbols and Faith

Thursday August 14th 6:30-8:30pm

Parkway United Church of Christ
2841 N Ballas Rd St. Louis, MO 63131

Featuring Presentations from Judaism, Eastern Christianity, Islam and Hinduism

Interfaith Partnership
of Greater St. Louis

Christian Education Updates

CEnews Link

You can find the June 26 Christian Education Newsletter **here!** If you'd like to be included in the CEnews mailing list, please just contact **gabriel@parkwayucc.org**

Join the Sunday School Ministry Team

We're looking for two volunteers to help teach Sunday School in 2025! If you enjoy working with kids and youth, this is a great way to serve—low commitment, just one or two Sundays a month.

Interested? Contact Gabriel Requadt, Director of Christian Education, at **gabriel@parkwayucc.org** or 314-872-9330 x101.

Rainbow Camp at DuBois Center

Summer Camp Registration is OPEN! In the Summer of 2025, they'll be offering a variety of sessions for campers age 5-18. They're excited to welcome you back, or for the first time! For more info and to register, click **here**.

DuBois Center, the Camp and Retreat Center of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ, is located on 330 scenic acres in Southern Illinois. With lakes, meadows, and forest trails, it offers a welcoming retreat for all ages. Home to one of the region's longest-running equestrian programs, the center has introduced generations to horseback riding and outdoor exploration. Operating since 1965, DuBois Center now hosts third- and fourth-generation campers, continuing a rich legacy of connection to nature.

Dedicated to equity and inclusion, DuBois Center welcomes individuals of all ages, genders, races, and faith backgrounds. While rooted in the

United Church of Christ, the center embraces all who seek a meaningful camp experience.

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Ponder

As we continue to ponder the acts of war in the Middle East, Ukraine and elsewhere today, please pray/sing this from Carolyn Winfrey Gillette – the tune is Finlandia (*Be Still My Soul*) if you want to sing or hum as you read and pray through this...

We Pray for Peace
We pray for peace, O God of love and justice,
as once again, we face a time of war.
The meek and humble try — amid the crisis —
to love and build, to nurture and restore.
May leaders hear the truth the prophets teach us —
that gifts of peace are well worth struggling for.
We pray for peace, O Christ who calmed the waters —
who stilled the storm, who stilled disciples' fear.
You spoke with love and with amazing power;
be with us now when trouble is so near.
May leaders see the miracle you offer —
that words and deeds can calm the nations here.
We pray for peace, O Spirit here among us;
your love emboldens, judges and restrains.
Take any hate and acts of impulse from us;
make leaders wise, amid competing claims.
May we seek peace, O God of love and justice;
may love and mercy be our highest aims.

Video

Jokes

It is PRIDE Weekend here in St Louis
Check out this 2½ minute history of PRIDE

https://youtu.be/oA7yke3k254

If I ride my bike twice tomorrow… will that count as recycling?

What kind of plant grows on your hand? *A palm tree.*

What is a tree's least favorite month? *Sep-timber!*

What did the tree wear to the pool party? *Swimming trunks.*

How can you tell the ocean is friendly? *It waves.*

Questions of the Week

Where is your favorite place on earth?

What is your favorite flower, fruit, vegetable?

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Taking Care of Business

Please use the form at https://app.onechurchsoftware.com/pucc/forms/13 for all announcements for our media. Best practice can be to type your details in a Word document and then copy those details into the form. Bulletin and eNews deadline: noon Monday. You should receive a confirmation email when you have successfully submitted your request.

Livestream Worship services at PUCC YouTube Channel HERE
There is also 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**

PUCC GOOGLE REVIEW
Love our church? Want people to know how great it is and how welcome they would be here? Help spread the word by writing a Google review.

Here's how to submit your review:
1. Make sure you are logged in to your Google account. You can do this on the upper right-hand side of the page.
2. Do a Google search for Parkway United Church of Christ. Among the search results should be a separate listing for PUCC on the right side of the page. Look down this section to find and click on the "Write a Review" button.
3. You will be prompted to rate PUCC and write a review. You can add photos of PUCC if you'd like though this is optional. When finished, simply click the "post" or "submit" button.

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW PUCC APP TODAY!
For Android, click here!
For Apple, click here!

Parkway UCC's App is a robust tool that helps us connect and communicate easily. One Church is a gamechanger that will help us to be more vital. Click **here** to see the instructions for downloading the app.

Our online member directory is a feature many of you have been waiting for! We take your privacy seriously. The directory is accessible only to PUCC members and staff who use their password to login.

We have also begun using our new front door keypad installed on the brick wall to the right of the doors by our Safety Team. Please select your own unique 4-digit code and send it to **gabriel@parkwayucc.org** so we can load it into the keypad and troubleshoot as needed.

We are happy to help you with anything and everything One Church – including taking your profile photo on Sunday mornings!

One Church Support

Join us with your phone, tablet or laptop as our One Church Team offers support, shortcuts and strategies to make your experience with our software and app more fruitful and enjoyable. People with all levels of experience with One Church are welcome to stop by the large bulletin board in the Gathering Space before or after worship this Sunday. Cindy will be there!

Questions? Please reach out to:
Cindy Nouri cynthianouri@gmail.com
Barb Harris barbharris@charter.net
Gabriel Requadt gabriel@Parkwayucc.org

Parkway United Church of Christ
(314) 872 9330 contact@parkwayucc.org
2841 N Ballas Road,
St. Louis, MO 63131

We appreciate your submissions of jokes, quotes, photos, videos, weekly opportunities, scriptures that are important to you, hymn/song suggestions, poetry, etc. We would love to hear from you: contact@parkwayucc.org

PUCC eNews is published weekly in order to broadcast Parkway UCC events and happenings - and items of interest to the Parkway UCC community of faith. Please submit all communications requests, by noon Monday.

Staff Configuration and Hours:

Gabriel is in the main office from 8:30am-2:30pm Monday thru Thursday,

until 1:00pm on Fridays as he focuses on Christian Education, Youth Ministry and Administrative Support
gabriel@parkwayucc.org

Kathy is our building and calendar guru and is in the front entry office from 7:30-11:30am Wednesday - Thursday and available via email and phone other mornings.
kathy@parkwayucc.org

Mona works on the website and helps all of us with graphic design from home up to ten hours per week.
mona@parkwayucc.org

Dawn, our Bookkeeper, is in the office a few days each month and is available via email and phone from her home in Florida.
dawn@parkwayucc.org

Kevin is around each day but Thursday. He is available for emergencies 24/7/365 at 314-330-0629; **kevin@parkwayucc.org**