PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS

LIMITLESS LOVE
COURAGEOUS ACTION
SPIRITED INQUIRY

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(If Table of Contents doesn't work, click **here** for a version that does.)

📬 eNews at a Glance

🗣️ PUCC Announcements
📅 Recurring Events
🌄 News Around the Bend
🤝 Community Happenings
🧠 Ponder, Video, Jokes
📄 Taking Care of Business

Worship With Us this Sunday, July 20

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.]

Our Psalter Lesson brings us back to the beginning with Psalm 1, reminding us that we can be "like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper."

We will share two gospel lessons:

Luke 10:38-42 tells us the sibling story of Mary and Martha. They didn't necessarily approach their time with Jesus in the same way – which caused some friction. Jesus had to intervene. Growth happens with hard work and sometimes quietly below what can be seen.

John 15:1-8 has Jesus talking about vines, branches, pruning, harvest and grapes. Fruit happens!

Worship bulletin **here**!

Songs include: *Morning Has Broken; For the Fruit of All Creation; Spirit of the Living God; Holy Ground; Come and Find the Quiet Center; We Plow the Fields and Scatter; Lord, Make Us More Holy*

We will also commission our teens and leaders as they begin the Youth Mission Trip during worship.

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 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 **July 25**

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 July 18

Ellie Svenson - transitioning to *Mason Pointe* (see info next column).
UCC General Synod was July 11-15 in Kansas City - generalsynod.org
Nancy Litzinger - healing after complicated heart surgery yesterday.
Kathy and Bill Hilgeman - her new knee; his medical challenges.
Tina - septic pneumonia (stepmom of Dawn Jones-Goldstein).
Baby Saylor Yettaw - PICU with Type 1 Diabetes (Jones-Goldstein).
Rick - undergoing multiples treatments for cancer (Laura Waite's dad).
Elaine - cancer treatments; surgery 7/29 (Melanie Muchnick's mom).
The families of Camp Mystic (including the Feruzzos) and all the people in Texas overwhelmed with the fatal flooding (McMillon).
Ongoing chaos and grief in the Middle East.
The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia.
Our StL neighbors after the tornado in May.

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.

Return to Top

PUCC Announcements

Celebrate Summer Lyons! Support a New Teacher’s Journey
Help out our 2025 Mizzou graduate and future elementary teacher Summer Lyons!

We knew Summer would become a teacher - she was always amazing with kids here at church, on youth mission trips and around St Louis when we helped a local mission. Let's continue to appreciate and bless the important work that Summer does!

If you’d like to help, she would greatly appreciate gift cards to Amazon, Target, or Walmart. You can also email her at summer.lyons14@gmail.com for Venmo information, or you can talk/give to her mom, Liz Lyons, directly!

PARKWAY

SPEAKER

SERIES

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am

“Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) Defined and Demystified,” by Richard Losciale.

Sunday, July 20 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

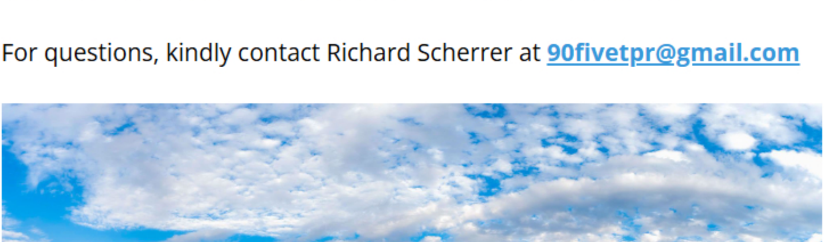
Richard Losciale, a Certified Senior Advisor, will present an enlightening journey into the expansive realm of AI. In his immersive class, Richard will explore AI's fundamental principles, mechanisms, and its vast potential for the future. Prepare for a comprehensive exploration of the rapidly evolving world of AI and its multifaceted effects on our future. Any questions or comments about programming, please visit with Richard Scherrer; any complaints, take it up with a member of his staff.

“Gabriel’s General Synod Experience” by Gabriel Requadt

Sunday, August 3 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

Come hear PUCCer's Gabriel Requadt as he regales his enthralling time he had at General Synod 35 that happened in July! He'll be sharing how he experienced Synod, the people he met, what General Synod is all about and what it means for our local church, along with sharing some of the resolutions that were passed that our church might like to consider. Come be a part of this sacred moment as we dig deep together!

For questions, kindly contact Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**



🌟 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 more full rundown for how the week will go:

⛪ **Sunday, July 20** - Be commissioned, go grocery shopping, Historic Sanctuary at **1pm** tour, and Habitat for Humanity tour at **2pm**, **sleepover at church**

🦅 **Monday, July 21** - World Bird Sanctuary, nature walk at Powder Valley and nature drive through Lone Elk Park, **Done by 3pm Youth go home for dinner/sleep**

🌽 **Tuesday, July 22** - Meet at church to make bagged lunches at 8am, Circle of Concern **9:30-11am**, Saint Louis Area Foodbank **3-5pm**, Romeo & Zooliet **7:30pm showtime, sleepover at church**

🏳️‍🌈 **Wednesday, July 23** - STL Metro Umbrella Group **10:30am**, Emmaus Homes **2pm, be back at church by 5pm**

⚾ **Thursday, July 24** - Unleashing Potential **9am-12pm**, Isaiah 58 **12:20-3:30pm**, Pizza Party back at church **4:30-5:30pm**

Ends with PUCC Night at Cardinals Game 6:45pm

📧 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. 💪

Cardinals™
OPENING DAY
OPENING DAY
OPENING DAY

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!

You can pick up your ticket on Sunday, or arrange with staff to come during the week.

Come cheer on the Cardinals, share fellowship, and celebrate the incredible work our youth have done. There is just ***1 ticket left***, so click here to 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 $48. There are 10 tickets -- we can see about getting more as needed.

Saturday, August 23: Dinner at Tiger Soup Dumplings. Have you been wanting to try TIGER SOUP DUMPLINGS? Let's try them together! Click here to register by 8/17.

Save the dates:
Saturday, November 8 from 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Explore some historical highlights of St Louis architecture and how they changed the area from blighted to monumental. Tour begins at Union Station. Register **here**.

Saturday, December 6 from 2-4pm
Come enjoy live theater with us -- *Emma* the play - based on the novel by Jane Austen at The Rep. Register **here**.

Question? Contact Carmen Bumgarner at **cfbum@charter.net**

Back to Top

Recurring PUCC Events

The PUCC Adventurers will not have an outing in July but will resume outings in August. Stay tuned for details.

TED
Tuesday Evening Dialogue

TAD
Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

Tuesday Evening Dialogue—Off for Summer

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue - Summer Break

TED is on summer break from July 1 - August 12.
For questions, please contact 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.
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

TAD will take August off and resume in September. Please send Jackie Eiffert ideas of books you'd like to read, prior book suggestions and/or new ones, and she'll send out a list again. For more info, please contact jeiffert2@gmail.com

Coffee and Conversation at Panera
Fri, Aug 22 | 2pm | Panera on Manchester Rd, Des Peres

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

Upcoming dates:
Wed, Sept 24 at 2pm

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

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

Return to Top

Other PUCC News Around the Bend

ECO STEWARD REPORT for July
We've pulled together some interesting and important FACTS learned from the recent MICROPLASTICS Documentary held on June 29.

The Plastic Pollution Crisis
The world is awash in toxic and polluting single-use plastics made from hazardous chemicals and climate-damaging fossil fuels.

"As experts in children's environmental health, we know that what we do to the environment, we ultimately do to ourselves and to our children. Products like polystyrene create pollution where they are produced, where they are discarded, and inside our bodies. They dirty our air, contaminate our water, and get into the food chain. Because polystyrene threatens human health and cannot be practically recycled, we support a polystyrene ban."
~ Dr. Perry Elizabeth Sheffield, MD, MPH Deputy Director, Mount Sinai School of Medicine Departments of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine

Beach litter is full of polystyrene foam. Polystyrene is consistently reported as one of the top 10 items of debris recovered from shorelines and beaches worldwide (Ocean Conservancy).
"There's an estimated 51 trillion pieces of plastic in the ocean, most of it broken up into bits smaller than the nail on your pinkie finger. Marine animals eat this plastic when they mistake it for fish eggs, plankton and algae. And so do people when they slurp down oysters, consume crab or

eat other types of fish and shellfish, according to the latest research on the presence of plastic in fisheries and aquaculture issued by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization."

How does plastic foam threaten our seafood? Plankton typically eat algae, but with 8 million metric tons of plastic being dumped into our oceans annually, Plankton, the base of the sea food web, are eating microplastics, laden with other toxins.

POLYSTYRENE never biodegrades but breaks up into tiny toxic microplastics that harm wildlife and poison our food web. Microplastics mimic plankton, an important food source for fish and seabirds. They also act like sponges, absorbing toxins commonly found in polluted waters, like PCBs, pesticides and flame retardants, carrying those additional toxins with them.

As a part of the recent "New Plastics Economy" report produced by the World Economic Forum and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, leaders of 15 global brands - including Dow Chemical, Coca-Cola, L'Oreal, Unilever, and Procter & Gamble - recommended that polystyrene products be phased out.

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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.

Return to Top

Community Happenings

Isaiah 58
MINISTRIES
Cares

Summer Opportunity with

Freedom From Hunger

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!

Also, Parkway UCC is being asked to donate 130 boxes of 12-count colored pencils for school year 2026. As you are shopping now and through the summer, please pick up boxes of 12-count colored pencils. Walmart is currently offering Crayola color pencils at 97 cents a box if ordered online. Watch for other stores offering school supplies throughout the summer. Please place donations in the blue, marked box located in the lobby. This drive will end Sunday, 31 August.

Community-Wide Food Drive

Saturday, August 2 | 10am-12pm | Multiple Locations (see below)

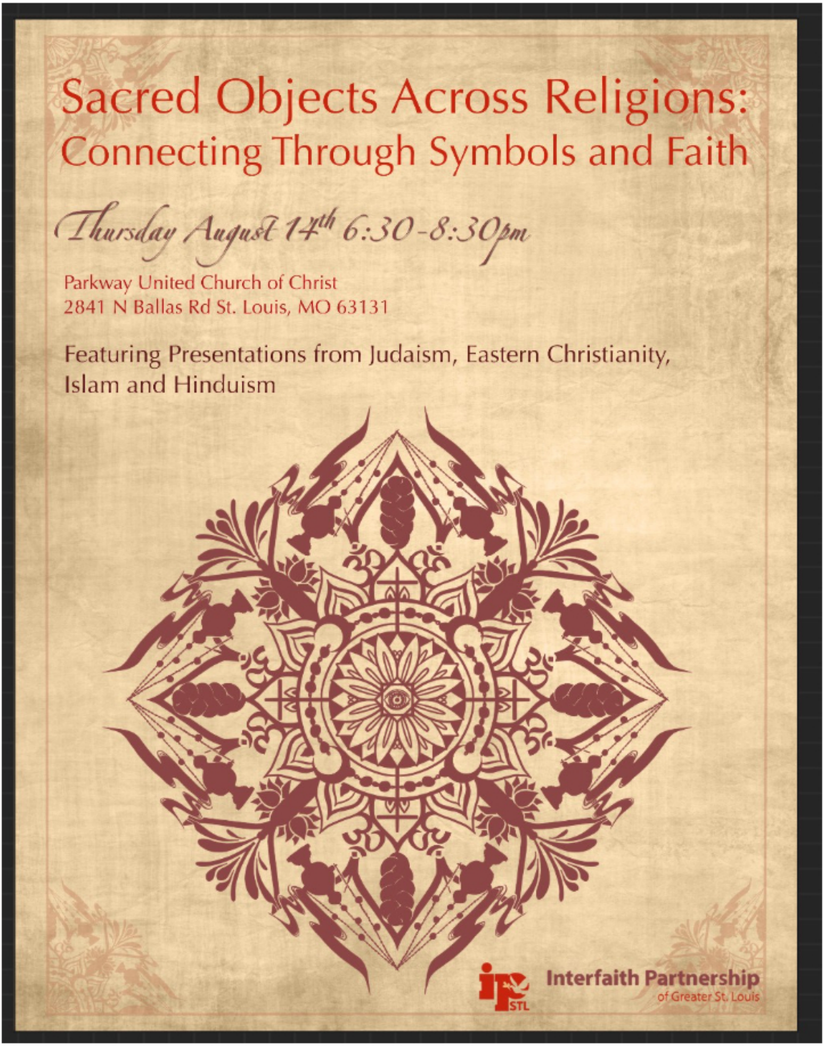
Help Isaiah 58 Ministries feed children. Donate food at one of the convenient drop-off locations! Your support helps Isiah 58 Ministries provide healthy, nutritious food to families this summer and through the year. Collection Sites:

- Southminster Presbyterian Church – 10126 East Watson Rd
- Parkway UCC – 2841 N Ballas Rd
- Hope UCC – 6273 Eichelberger
- Gethsemane Lutheran Church – 3600 Hampton Rd
- Afton Christian Church – 9626 Tesson Ferry Rd

Requested Food: Peanut butter, beef stew, spinach & greens, and chili.

For more info, email Evelyn Buretta at **burettaevelyn@gmail.com** or Sally Dodge at **s.dodge@hotmail.com**

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 July 17 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.

Return to Top

Something to Ponder

Personal growth is often compared to the production of fruit because both processes are organic, gradual, and require intentional care. Here are some meaningful parallels:

🌱 It Starts with Planting a Seed

Just as fruit begins with a seed, personal growth begins with an idea, a moment of reflection, or a desire for change.

Seeds must be planted in fertile soil—just as growth takes root in environments of support, love, learning, or challenge.

🌞 It Needs Light and Nourishment

Plants need sunlight, water, and nutrients. People need encouragement, knowledge, and meaningful experiences to grow.

Without the right conditions—like honesty, self-awareness, and community—growth may be stunted.

🌿 It Takes Time and Patience

Fruit doesn’t appear overnight; it develops slowly over seasons.

Personal growth requires patience, persistence, and trust in the unseen progress that is taking place within.

🌪️ Weathering the Storms

Trees that bear fruit often endure harsh weather—strong winds, droughts, or heavy rains.

Growth often happens through adversity. Hardship, like storms, can strengthen our roots and resilience.

🍎 It Yields Something Nourishing

Fruit feeds others. In the same way, personal growth produces qualities—like compassion, wisdom, kindness—that benefit the world around us.

The “fruit” of growth might be generosity, courage, empathy, or peace.

🌳 It’s Ongoing and Cyclical

Fruit-bearing trees go through seasons of rest, pruning, and new bloom.

Personal growth isn't linear. There are times of harvest and times of waiting. Even rest is part of the cycle.

This metaphor reminds us: **we grow best when we are rooted in something life-giving, nurtured over time, and open to transformation.** And when we do grow, the results can bless not just ourselves—but the entire community.

Video

Martha and Mary from *The Chosen* ... 8 minutes and worth it!

https://youtu.be/u_PWn83zJ68

Vacation and Travel Jokes

What does it cost to spend the day at the beach?
A few sand dollars.

How much fun is it to do your laundry when traveling?
Loads.

The first time my mother flew, she was a nervous wreck. During takeoff, the roar from the engines proved reassuring — it meant they were working, she reasoned. But when the plane leveled off, so did the engines. Grabbing the armrests, she asked aloud, **'Did we stop?"**

What is the math teacher's favorite holiday destination?
Times Square!

Questions of the Week

What is the next big step you need to take?

What must you let go in order to move forward?

Return to Top

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