PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS

LIMITLESS LOVE
COURAGEOUS ACTION
SPIRITED INQUIRY

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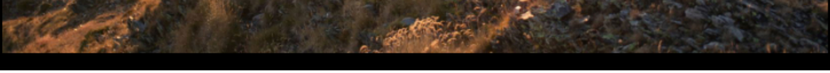

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Happening Before Sunday

St. Pat's Dinner Come Support Habitat for Humanity
Saturday, February 28 | 4-7pm Samuel UCC

Please bring family and friends! Call the church office for tickets 314-727-9540, or purchase at the door. If you can't make it, please consider sending a contribution! Tickets are $20. Kids 6-10: $6. Special thanks to the Kern Meat Company and others. Every cent goes to Habitat for Humanity!

Worship With Us this Sunday, March 1

Worship with us at 10am this Sunday! Join us here at PUCC or on YouTube Live (@parkwayuccstl)... or participate any time later on YouTube.

It's **the Second Sunday of Lent.** Our scriptures are Genesis 12:1-4a; John 3:1-17 and Psalm 121.
Nicodemus, a pharisee, asks Jesus a question under the cover of night and they engage in a robust conversation. Making a fresh new commitment to learn from Jesus and his words/ways is a responsibility and opportunity in Lent.

Our Lenten theme is **Questions Shape Us**. As we travel this Lenten journey alone and together, we will ponder some of the questions that Jesus asked and the questions people asked him… as well as the questions we ask ourselves and one another. This Sunday's question is: *How can someone be born again?*

We will extinguish two of our Lenten candles each time we worship this season – remembering the good and important work of Lent isn't always easy - and we will come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.
As we approach the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning… the light that never goes out.

Worship bulletin **here**!

Songs include: *Lead Me, Guide Me; The God of Abraham Praise; Were You There When They Questioned?; Jesus Loves the Little Children; Here Are Our Hearts; Come Share the Lord; Lord, Make Us More Holy*

First Sunday Choir! Please come at 9am to learn a song we will sing during the worship service. All ages welcome! ***We would like to have a robust group this month!*** Questions? Contact **amy@parkwayucc.org**
March's song is 'I Am Loved' by Timothy Bushong.
We will celebrate the sacrament of communion at our open table. All are invited to receive this simple sacred meal. If you are with us remotely, please consider having some bread, crackers, wine, grape

juice handy.

It's Give-A-Meal Sunday. Please bring gifts of non-perishable food items and/or personal care items for our neighbors in the city and county who need some help. Not sure what to purchase? How about choosing from these suggestions: sardines, chili, dinner helper, cereal, cooking oil, 48 oz or smaller shampoo, Razors, shaving cream, dish soap. Thank you!

Prayer Partner Before and After Worship this Sunday

PUCCer Lynn Mark is available this Sunday in the front left corner of the sanctuary before and after worship to pray confidentially with individuals. She is a trained prayer chaplain. She will call on the presence of God and help create a safe spiritual space. Lynn will listen to you as you tell her a bit about your prayer request. She will offer an affirmative prayer out loud, reminding you of your inner strengths rather than ask God for a specific outcome. She will pray that you are guided by God's infinite love, presence and support… and that any joy or gratitude will be multiplied, and any fear or doubt will be transformed into peace and confidence.

Prayer List Updates as of February 27

Nathan Rauscher and Jo Patterson - married this week.
Black History Month.
Christopher Haack - healing small fractures, ligament injury in foot.
Rita Holly (Nouri) - in ICU waiting for a heart transplant (Cindy Nouri).
Randy Cosby - healing as multiple myeloma has returned (Reinhardt).
Marilyn Zucker - healing after a fall and hip surgery (Litzinger).
Michael Tappy - as he is in need of a heart transplant (Schmelig).
Sera, Wyatt Watkins & family as she is deployed until end of 2026.
Peace in Mexico - safety for all, incl visitors like Diane Brost's nephew.
The grief and groaning of Minneapolis and the nation over ICE.
Ongoing chaos/grief in the Middle East - including Iran.
The continuing war with Ukraine and Russia – 4 years now.

Our St Louis neighbors finding their way after 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.

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PUCC Announcements

Adventurous Men Out Early

AMOE gathers in the Heritage Room on **Thursday, March 5** at 9:15am. What's the agenda? Hard to say. All we know is we look forward to getting together each month. Questions? See Richard Scherrer

Annual Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown sponsored by PUCC Youth
Sunday, March 8 | 11:15am| Fellowship Hall

LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE!!!!
It's time for our annual Chili Cookoff/Brownie Smackdown!
The event will be held on Sunday, March 8, happening closely before St. Patrick's Day weekend, following the worship service. $5 for event.

So, wear your green, bring your best chili and/or brownies, and with a wee bit o' luck, you will be the 2026 champion and receive the coveted trophy (ribbon for the brownies) and braggin' rights for the next year!

This is a fundraiser for the youth to raise money for their annual mission projects; so come out, support our youth, and enjoy some fun, fellowship and good-natured competition! The sign-up will be in the Gathering Space. Thanks for your support!

For more info, reach out to Amy Yakel da_yakel@att.net

FUNDrive Final Push!

As of Feb 22 we have two more Sundays—March 1, and March 8—for FunDrive drop-offs, though weekday drop-offs are also welcome (email Gabriel at gabriel@parkwayucc.org to coordinate). Please place items on the bench in the gym/dining area or by the Gathering Space doors. Soft goods (clothing, linens, shoes, accessories, etc.) should go in black or white garbage bags, while household items (kitchenware, toys, décor) go in labeled boxes, and books/media (VHS, CDs, DVDs) must be boxed separately and labeled, as we are paid by category. We're close to earning bonuses—1,000 lbs. of household goods and 700 lbs. of books/media each earn $50, and 3,000 total pounds earns a $75 U-Haul allowance—so a strong push over the next two weeks will help us reach these goals. Please also save the date for loading on March 13 and unloading at Savers in Ellisville on **March 14 at 1 pm**; we'll need help, vehicles (limit of five for drop-off), and possibly additional trucks depending on final totals. Thank you for your continued support!

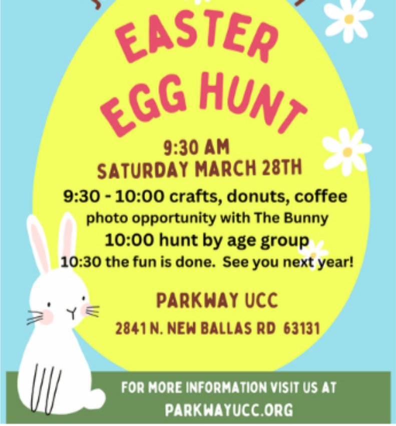
Family Welfare &
Reproductive Health Care

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

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

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

2026 Community Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 28 | 9:30am



EASTER EGG HUNT

9:30 AM
SATURDAY MARCH 28TH
9:30 - 10:00 crafts, donuts, coffee
photo opportunity with The Bunny
10:00 hunt by age group
10:30 the fun is done. See you next year!

PARKWAY UCC
2841 N. NEW BALLAS RD 63131

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT
PARKWAYUCC.ORG

Parkway UCC

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

Fun Items Needed for Easter Morning Egg Hunt!
During this year's Easter Morning Egg Hunt happening **April 5**, children will collect eggs filled with prize tickets, then visit a store to trade tickets for fun items! We're seeking new or like-new donations (valued at $5 or less) for babies through 5th grade - no food, please. Ideas include books, fidget toys, and other kid-friendly goodies. Please place donations in the "PUCC Egg Hunt" basket in the Gathering Space by ***March 22.*** Questions? Contact Ingrid Scharf at scharf.ingrid@gmail.com. Thank you!

Spring Friendship Dinners

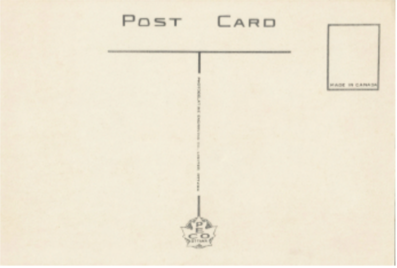
Spring is right around the corner, and so are Friendship Dinners. Sign up in The Gathering Space to be a host or guest. Hosts can also sign up to be a guest at another dinner. We will also have a Family Friendly Potluck for families with children. This will be held at the church playground after Sunday service on **April 26**. More details to follow. Dinner host volunteers should indicate how many guests they will invite. The Friendship Dinner team will organize the dinners at the end of March. The host provides the main dish, and

Easter Ferns for Sale

There will be 15 fern hanging baskets for sale to decorate the sanctuary on Easter. Please sign up on One Church here, pay on the site or put $20 in the collection plate with a notation of ‘FERN’. The ferns may be taken home after worship on Easter morning. There will be not be a sign-up poster in The Gathering Space. Questions? Contact Carol Cobb ccjcobb@aol.com guests bring a side dish or dessert. The host can also decide on a Dutch dinner at a local restaurant. Please look for the signup sheet at the Gathering Space or contact Cindy Wessel to sign up at cindywessel@yahoo.com

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

Many have signed Respect MO Voter's petition for a ballot initiative to secure and strengthen the initiative petition process in Missouri which is currently under attack by our legislature. Our time is running out to get the required number of signatures and are in great need of volunteers and signatures immediately. This petition is nonpartisan. Will you give a few hours to help protect initiative petition rights for all Missouri voters? If we sit this one out, the right could be taken forever. If we act now, we can



Get Out the Vote Postcards
Sunday, March 15 | 11:15am

We're gathering to write postcards from Informed Voters of America (an initiative of Postcards to Swing States) to our neighbors in Iowa ahead of their June 2, 2026, primary. Card writers follow a provided short script; addresses are provided, too. Postcards, pens, and stamps are provided but any donation to offset postage is appreciated. Can't stay after church? Pick up a pack of 5 or 10 postcard/addresses to take preserve it. Let's not look back and wish we would have done more. Please sign up at respectmovoters.org/join or contact Michelle Singer (mrsinger71@gmail.com) or Cindy Nouri (cynthianouri@gmail.com).

home (you are responsible for postage). Cards must be mailed on April 2, 2026.Questions? Contact Deb Reinhardt deborahreinhardt@att.net

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Recurring PUCC Events

PARKWAY

SPEAKER SERIES

Speaker Series Occasional opportunities after worship at 11:15am

"A Conversation About Abortion: Seeking Understanding and Solidarity," by Lisa Williams.

March 1 | 11:15am | Heritage Room
Lisa Williams, St. Louis County Organizer for Abortion Action Missouri, holds degrees from Eden Seminary and Washington University Law. She'll address who should make reproductive health decisions—individuals and their doctors, or politicians. This program aims to educate, empower, and foster respectful discussion about abortion care, acknowledging diverse perspectives. Together we will: Review abortion care status in Missouri and relevant legislative threats; examine the United Church of Christ's Resolution affirming abortion as healthcare; share experiences and perspectives respectfully; discuss support for women, families, and physicians making reproductive decisions free from political influence.

"The Psychology of Gun Violence: How Smart Choices Can Save Lives," by Professor Janet S. Hyde.
March 22 | 11:15am | Heritage Room
Professor Hyde's presentation will update the audience on the gun debate and other insightful views on the subject not generally known to the public. Among many accolades throughout her professional life, Professor Hyde received the Ernest R. Hilgard Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the American Psychological Association in 2016. She is also active in a national organization called "Every Town for Gun Safety." Please attend and keep yourself informed on matters that can be life or death. Our thanks to Nancy Litzinger for introducing Professor Hyde to the Speakers Series staff Questions? Richard Scherrer at **90fivetpr@gmail.com**

ROOTED
in FAITH and
JUSTICE
Christian Calls to
Conscience & Cries for
PEACE IN PALESTINE

Rooted in Faith and Justice: Christian Calls to Conscience & Cries for Peace in Palestine
Thursday, March 5 | 6pm | Zoom ID: 852 4980 9914 Passcode: 886683

Parkway UCC will be offering a five-week reading club of *Rooted in Faith and Justice* over Zoom. The book offers a powerful and enlightening perspective through the eyes of Palestinian Christian leaders and thinkers, helping us to understand the complexities and injustices of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Next week, we'll be doing our *last section* by covering Section 5: Moving Forward. Click **here** to get your copy! Let Gabriel Requadt know you'll be attending by emailing him at **gabriel@parkwayucc.org**

TAD
Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

TED
Tuesday Evening 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

Please join with TAD as we read and discuss *The Lion Women of Tehran*, a novel by Marjan Kamali, in 2 more sessions on **March 3, and March 17**. We'd love to have you!

The book is a heartfelt, epic novel of friendship, betrayal, redemption, and the struggle for women's rights set against three transformative decades in Tehran, Iran.

Tuesday Evening Dialogue

2nd and 4th Tuesdays | 6-8pm | Heritage Room
Zoom Meeting ID: 849 4403 9731;
Passcode: 792617

Please join us as we continue our discussion on the book *Dinners with Ruth* by NPR's Nina Totenberg. This book is a memoir and covers the author's experiences as a young reporter starting out and moves through her life including her long friendship with Ruth Bader-Ginsberg. Please read up to chapter 13 for our next session on **March 10**. Bring a dish to share for the pot luck & join us for our next book conversation! Newcomers are always welcome!

Fellowship starts at 1:45pm and the book discussion is from 2-3pm. For more info, please contact Jackie Eiffert at jeiffert2@gmail.com

Prayer Partner: an opportunity to pray with someone
Tuesday, March 24 | 3-5pm
Sanctuary

Drop-in Prayer Time.
Kevin will be at church.
Come on by if you'd like to pray together. Please text Kevin (314-330-0629) when you arrive.

Upcoming dates in the Sanctuary:
Wednesday, April 29 from 6-8pm;
Monday, May 18 from 1-3pm;

Bring a dish to share for the pot luck & join us for our next book conversation! Newcomers are always welcome!

Please join us in person at 6pm or on Zoom starting at 6:45pm. Contact Helen Race at raceh@att.net for questions.

Coffee and Conversation at Panera
Wednesday, March 25 | 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:
Friday, April 17 at 10am;
Tuesday, May 12 at 2pm;
Monday, June 29 at 7pm

Wednesday, June 17 from 9-11am

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

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

AWOL

Adventurous Women Out Late

Go AWOL this Winter – Adventurous Women Out Late
Friday, March 20 @5:30pm Dinner and Oscar-nominated Film.

Dine at Pierce Creek (menu here) then enjoy an acclaimed movie (TBA) around the corner at AMC Crève Coeur. Please RSVP here so we know how many tickets to purchase. (Carmen will purchase tix and you can Venmo her or give her cash.)

Look for other upcoming events:

Sunday, April 19 @12pm Lunch and Spring Stroll. Bring your lunch to church and we'll eat together after worship and adult education (ECO Stewards are planning something to celebrate Earth Day), then carpool to the Missouri Botanical Garden to enjoy the spring flowers! Feel free to meet us there if that is better for you. We will pay our admission at the door since some people have memberships. Sign here so Carmen knows how many are attending.

Sunday, May 17 @6pm Community Choir Concert. Enjoy one another's company and a great concert with our own Michelle Brueggemann at the renovated Powell Hall! Ticket prices TBA -- link to purchase will be shared as soon as available. Sign up here so Carmen knows how many are attending.

Questions? Contact Carmen Bumgarner - cfbum@charter.net

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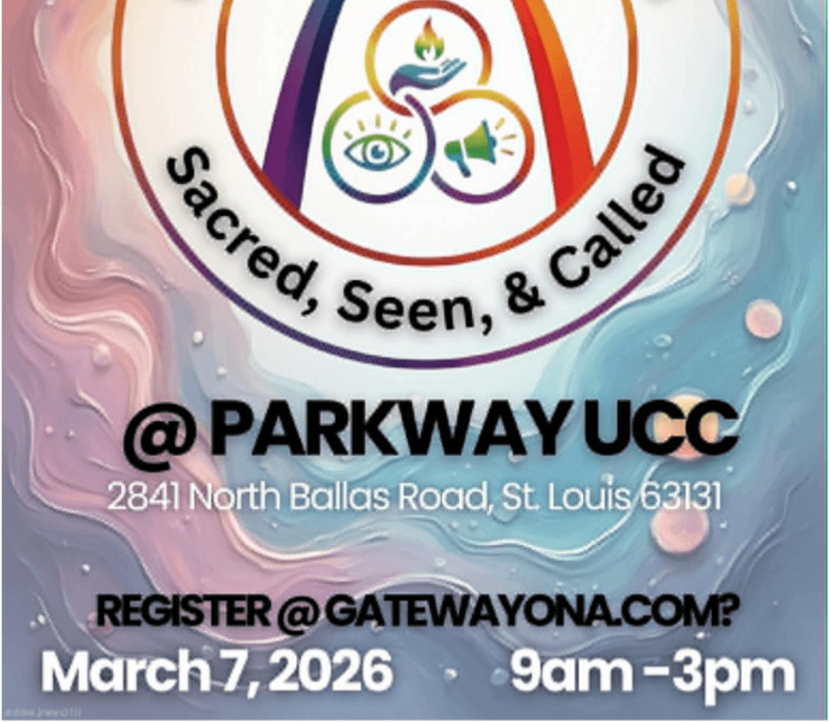
Other PUCC News

Gateway ONA Convocation



Sacred, Seen, & Called

@PARKWAY UCC

2841 North Ballas Road, St. Louis 63131

REGISTER @ GATEWAYONA.COM?

March 7, 2026 9am - 3pm

SAVE THE DATE! Gateway ONA Convocation 2026
Saturday, March 7 | 8:30am-3pm | Parkway UCC

Theme: Open and Affirming: Sacred, Seen, and Called. This Annual Convocation is for members of local churches who are exploring or living into what it means to be Open and Affirming. Workshops, guest speakers and worship will be a part of this amazing day!

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Derek Terry, (he/him) Acting Executive Director of the Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ and parttime pastor of St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is a nationally known pastor, artist, and activist committed to justice, inclusion, and creative resistance.

Doors open and light breakfast available at 8am. Worship begins at 9am. We are once again collecting canned goods to donate to Doorways. We will collect these at the door. The Eden Seminary Bookstore will have resources available during the event. Bring your travel mug and enjoy refreshment during the day. Please complete a separate registration and email address for each person. Registration cost: $25.00. Registration link here! Karla Beck, PUCC coordinator, is eager for help madamebeck@yahoo.com

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

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 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.

deborahreinhardt@att.net

Opportunities for Good Samaritans

North St. Louis Tornado Relief: Our church supports tornado relief efforts by collecting nonperishable food items and baby and personal hygiene supplies for families affected by the St. Louis tornado. Items may be placed in marked containers in the Gathering Space.

Questions? Please contact Sally Dodge s.dodge@hotmail.com or Evelyn Buretta burettaevelyn@gmail.com

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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PUCC Marketplace

PUCC Shirts Available for Sale!
Show your church spirit and spread a little love wherever you

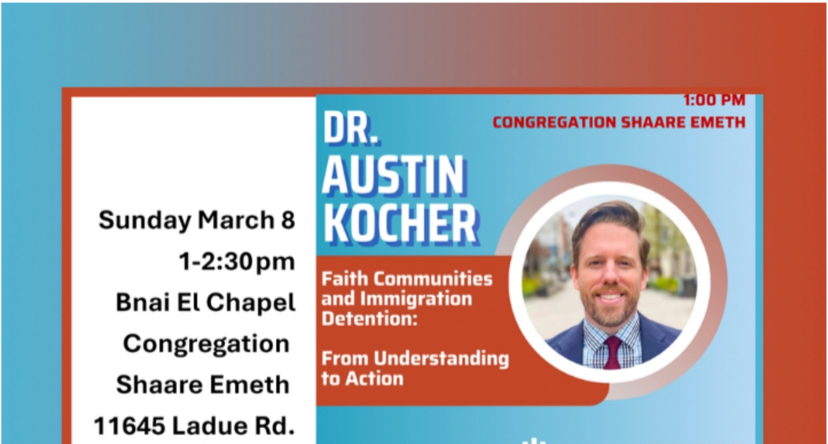
New Book! *Advocacy Made Easy*
PUCCer Cynthia Changyit Levin's new book, *Advocacy Made Easy:*

go! Our new church t-shirts are comfortable, soft, and perfect for everything from Sunday worship to community events. They feature our church name/logo so you can wear your faith out loud. Shirts are just $15 each in a variety of sizes. Purchase your PUCC shirt today here!

For any questions, contact Gabriel gabriel@parkwayucc.org

How to Turn Civic Frustration into Powerful Action, is **now available**! This concise, 70-page guide offers step-by-step instructions to help both new and seasoned advocates effectively engage with elected officials at every level of government. It includes updated guidance on writing op-eds, navigating AI in advocacy, and crafting persuasive messages using the “EPIC” format. Autographed copies with personal inscriptions are available for $15 through her website here. For more information or to join her launch team, email cynthia@changyit.com

Community Happenings



1:00 PM

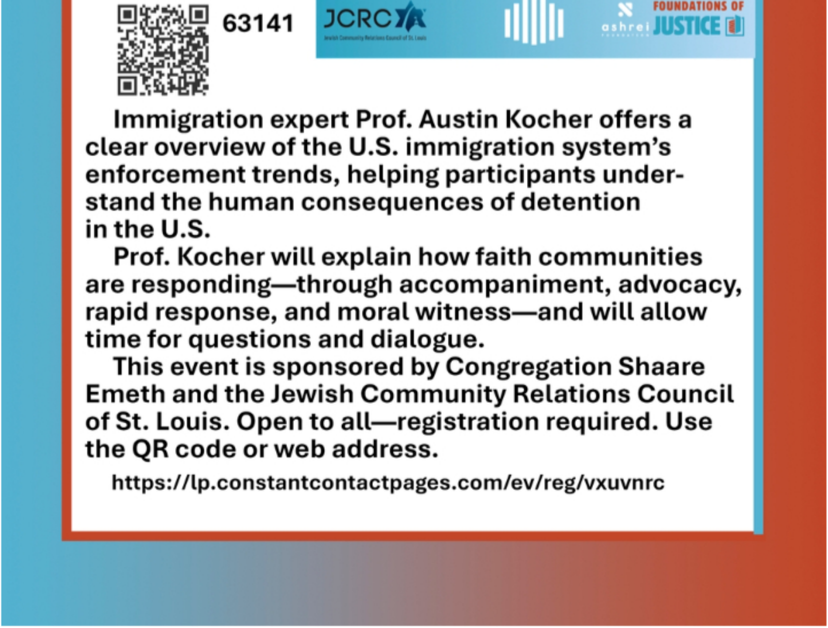
CONGREGATION SHAARE EMETH

DR. AUSTIN KOCHER

Faith Communities and Immigration Detention:

From Understanding to Action

Sunday March 8
1-2:30pm
Bnai El Chapel
Congregation
Shaare Emeth
11645 Ladue Rd.


JCRC
Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis
ashrei
FOUNDATIONS OF JUSTICE

63141

Immigration expert Prof. Austin Kocher offers a clear overview of the U.S. immigration system's enforcement trends, helping participants understand the human consequences of detention in the U.S.

Prof. Kocher will explain how faith communities are responding—through accompaniment, advocacy, rapid response, and moral witness—and will allow time for questions and dialogue.

This event is sponsored by Congregation Shaare Emeth and the Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis. Open to all—registration required. Use the QR code or web address.

https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/vxuvnrc

Missouri Mid South Conference eCourier

Here's Glenn's Greetings! Check out the rest of the MMSC eCourier February 20 here.

Christian Education Updates

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

Taking the Story Home
Want to take the story home to go deeper with the lesson or your family missed last Sunday? Click here! We'll also have ample photos from events that the children & youth do through the year.

Join the Sunday School Ministry Team
We're looking for two volunteers to help teach Sunday School! 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.

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Something to Ponder

When imagination
is replaced with homogenization,
our capacity to move forward,
together, is kneecapped
by a selfish insistence,
from the powers that be,
for us to march in lockstep
toward a cliff that hangs
over a massive field
of pre-dug graves.

Far beyond a painful refusal
to consider and protect
people from different places
and perspectives,
this mauling also includes
the greedy consumption
and destruction
of the whole cosmos,
no matter the impact
of such careless voracity
on the ecosystem into which
we are intricately woven.

We must find both
the ears and the hearts
to follow the beat
of a different drummer;
one whose percussive rhythm
both quickens and

synchronizes our pulses,
as it draws us up
the mountain of Shalom,
where peace is not merely
conflict quelled by threat,
but justice unfurled
ON and FOR each and every one
of creation’s precious elements.

~Todd Jenkins

Video

Check out these super brief PUCC videos crafted by our own Barb Harris!

The Bell:
https://youtu.be/NZYVkDzXF-k
Get There Together:
https://youtu.be/3I6COucJqp8
Intertwine Understanding:
https://youtu.be/NZbbKO9tA2Y
Love Must Be Louder:
https://youtu.be/MWBtNF0keBc
AWOL Wreaths:
https://youtu.be/xy89B2p6rtA
Spirited Inquiry:
https://youtu.be/uBXZ45rpCOA
Rise Up:
https://youtu.be/qcUTOqmLeRs

Jokes

Why did the gardener love March? **It was *sow* rewarding**.

How do you clean March mud? **With a *spring* detergent**.

What do you call a well-dressed lion in the spring? **A dandy lion!**

What did the seed say to the soil? **“I’m rooting for you!”**

Questions of the Week

Here is what you shared last Sunday on the board in the sanctuary:
Am I really doing my best?

If so, is it enough?
Is it okay not to be okay?
How did Jesus live after fasting?
(*A human cannot live for 40 days of fasting.*)
Why am I afraid to become brave and make a difference in the world?
Why isn’t grief any easier?
How can we reach those who hear with distraction, but want to really listen?
How can I be less busy?
Will these bones hold me?
How can we find peace and end the endless wars?

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