

# Parkway Courier

Volume 54, No. 7

July 2019

## Wisdom

In 1054 A.D., the Christian Church split in two. The West, centered in Rome, came to be known as 'Roman Catholic', and the East, centered in Constantinople, became known as 'Orthodox' Christians. The split happened because of political and religious reasons. Some arguments centered around the Holy Spirit, communion, and whether the true leadership of the church should be the Pope in Rome or the Patriarch in Constantinople.

We Protestants descended from Luther and the Reformation of the Catholic Church in the West. We inherited 'Western' ways of thinking and Western understandings of theology and God. Unlike our sisters and brothers in the East, this included an emphasis on sin, the 'Fall' of Adam and Eve, and the atonement of Christ by his death on the cross.

The Eastern Church, while still sharing these beliefs, puts more emphasis on the Holy Spirit, Wisdom, and the joy and holiness that God celebrates in humanity.

In the Bible, just like the groupings of books that are more 'Historical' or 'Prophetic,' there is also a group of books under the heading of "Wisdom." These include Job, the Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Songs, or Song of Solomon (same thing). Catholics and Orthodox Bibles also include the Book of Wisdom and Sirach (also called Ecclesiasticus).

The Wisdom Books, emphasize God's great delight in humanity, God's pride in humanity, and also, God's great Trust in humanity! I have never thought of God as particularly trusting us! Part of this, I believe, is because God created and loves us, like I love and trust my children or grandchildren. They don't need to earn it, my love and trust for them is centered in who they are, rather than what they do.

What the Books of Wisdom also tell us, though, is that 'Wisdom,' (also named the 'Holy Spirit' or 'God'), is given to each of us by God's own Self. Of course, God trusts us! God is present within us all the time. God is with us, and we can 'lean into' that Wisdom whenever we need it!

As we move into whatever the summer holds for us: family, retirement, vacation, relaxation, or transitions, we know that we can access that Wisdom whenever and wherever we want it. Some of the gifts of Wisdom or the Holy Spirit include understanding, strength, wisdom, guidance, courage, peace, patience, generosity, kindness, wonder, and awe. We can use these! They are ours for the asking!

- Pastor Kathy

# July Scriptures

## July 7 Proper 9

**2 Kings 5: 1-15** (God cures the king Namaan, of a form of leprosy, but not with the flashiness that he expected)

**Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20** (Jesus sends out the disciples, telling them to bring nothing with them, but to rely on God)

## July 14 Proper 10

**Amos 7: 7-5** (God chooses Amos to be a great prophet, but he doesn't want to, saying, "I am just a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees")

**Luke 10: 25-37** (Who is my neighbor?/The Good Samaritan)

## July 21 Proper 11

**Colossians 1:15-19** (Jesus is the image of the invisible God ... He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together)

**Luke 10: 38-42** (Mary & Martha)

## July 28 PICNIC at Sanborn Park, and 4:00 Parkway Concert with Dan Ritter

**Psalms 85: 8-13** (Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other)

**Luke 11: 1-13** (One of the disciples asked, "Lord, teach us to pray...")

## Rev. Ron Meyer is returning to Parkway!

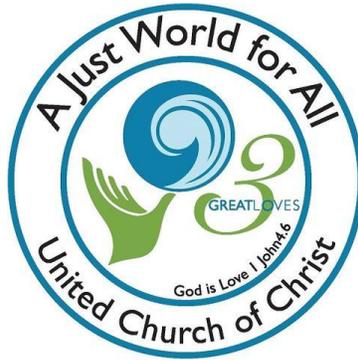
Ron will be visiting in the Twin Cities and will come to worship on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>! He and Kathy will share a 'dialogue sermon' with the congregation. Come, say 'Hi' to Ron, and enjoy the service!

## Out to Lunch Bunch

The Out to Lunch Bunch are invited to gather at the home of Kay Leerssen on Thursday, July 11 at 12 noon. Kay's address is 7517 Edgewood Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, 55428. Kay will provide lunch, but asks guests to bring desserts. Please call Kay at 763-561-2018 if you are able to join the group.

## Choose Your Favorite Windows!

We will be taking two to four of our stained glass windows to be hung in the building at Robbinsdale. Help us choose our favorites! Check them out, then tell or write to Char, Dianne, or Kathy to let us know your four favorites. The most loved windows win! Others will be available for purchase after we leave the building. The cost of removal by the stained glass window experts, transporting and framing is \$400/per window unframed, or \$500 framed (\$550 if frame is stained). Framing adds stability as well as beauty, but it isn't absolutely necessary. Whether you purchase one or not, tell us your Favorite Four!



## 3 Great Loves – a Just World for All by Dianne Star

The 3 Great Loves campaign of the UCC is an opportunity for all of us to express our Love of Neighbor, Love of Children, and Love of Creation by working together to address the inequities in our world. This is a 2-year initiative, and the UCC is providing resources for and seeking stories of how we are living out God's love in our world. Stories can be shared at [www.ucc.org/3greatloves](http://www.ucc.org/3greatloves), or on Facebook, or on Instagram and Twitter using #3greatloves in the post.

For 2019, the UCC printed "Just Act," a daily action calendar for creating a just world for all. At the beginning of each month, some of the actions for the month will be posted on the bulletin board by the Love of Neighbor poster. Use these actions as a resource for your ideas and actions about making a Just World for All.

Here are some actions from the July calendar:

- Visit a museum and explore new cultures. (Examples in the Twin Cities: Museum of Russian Art, American Museum of Asmat Art, Somali Museum of Minnesota)
- Find a labyrinth and invite friends to walk with you in prayer and meditation. (Public and outdoor ones at Carondelet Center in St. Paul, and the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis. Check out <https://labyrinthlocator.com/home> for additional locations and information.)
- Schedule a health exam and encourage a loved one to do the same.

Just Act!



### Dan Ritter's Final Concert!



Dan has let us know that he will be performing a final concert at Parkway on Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The concert will also be featuring Mary Ohm. This will be one to look forward to! Refreshments will be served afterwards. Thank you, Dan and Mary!

### Hey, Beautiful, Let's Take Your Picture!

New Directory for a New Church! We are creating a new consolidated church directory! Let Greg or Charlene Merz or Carol Anderson take your picture after a service, (or send us one if you're not going to be around)! Be sure to check with Dianne Star to make sure that your contact information is correct!





# CELEBRATE THE FOURTH?

by Dianne Star



John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail:

The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. ... It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.

July 2nd?! Yes, John Adams believed July 2nd was the correct date for Independence Day, and he turned down requests to appear at July 4th events in protest.

On June 7, 1776, Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for independence from Great Britain. The Continental Congress debated the motion but postponed voting on it. They appointed a committee to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain. The appointees were Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, John Adams of Massachusetts and Roger Sherman of Connecticut. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted 12-1 in favor of Lee's resolution for independence. They debated and revised the committee's draft of what would become the Declaration of Independence and finally adopted it on July 4th. Copies were made and dispatched to the delegates who had left. On July 19th, Congress ordered the Declaration be written on parchment and signed by every member of Congress. Most of the members of Congress signed on August 2. The last person signed the document in 1781.

Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration on July 4, 1777. Early festivals included ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speeches. After the Revolutionary War (1783), politicians held events and gave speeches to address citizens and create a sense of unity. In 1870, Congress made July 4th a federal holiday, but it was 1941 before federal employees were granted a paid holiday for July 4th. By the late 1800's, the focus changed to a day of leisure and an occasion for family gatherings.

The 4th of July is supposed to be a celebration of unity and freedom. However, most people will say our nation is the most divided it has been since the 1850's. We recognize the great divide in education and income. We see the passage of laws allowing discrimination and making it more difficult to vote as denying freedoms. We see injustices in the legal system.

How can we celebrate the Fourth of July holiday? Here are some things that help me celebrate. We the people are the United States. I have the ability to change the injustices I see. I act, even though, I may not see the results. I am kind. I listen to others' stories. I share my story. I remember: God is still speaking, and I and others are still listening.

## Picnic!

**The Annual Parkway/Robbinsdale Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 at Sanborn Park.** Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the service, good food, and great fellowship! Please let Kathy or Char know if you need a ride!



# Parkway Historical Materials

by Jane Williams

Parkway has an impressive history, starting in the 1870's continuing through 2019. The church we are today is derived from the vision and energy of our Plymouth Congregational, St. John's Evangelical, Fremont Congregational and Forest Heights Congregational Church forefathers.

Our ancestors were dedicated to serving God, and *keeping impeccable records*, many of which have been housed at Parkway. Now is the time to decide what should stay and what can go. Thanks to our strong youth, all of the historical documents have been brought out of storage, and a preliminary review has been done.

There are membership records, meeting minutes, treasury ledgers, bulletins, pictures, etc. Much of it is handwritten with some in German. All of the information is interesting – some fascinating. That said, most of this treasure trove is not needed as we move our history forward (legal records referencing vital statistics are kept separate and secure).

The documents will be on display in the Social Hall on Sunday, July 14 through July 21. Please enjoy looking them over, and **take whatever has meaning for you**. Anything remaining after July 21 will be discarded.

## HAPPY/THANKFUL OFFERINGS

**We are offering this gift because we are happy and/or thankful for:**

### June 2, 2019

Jerry & Pat Durand.  
Thank you for your work on the flowers and your positive spirit with our merger. You are both inspiring.  
-Todd

For 46 years of life and love.  
-Ann and Jim Jarvimaki

Happy Anniversary to Jim and Ann.  
-Lester Boerger

### June 16, 2019

Starting this Sunday with a wonderful church service.

### June 23, 2019

Pride!  
-Kathleen

Alex, who officially becomes a United States citizen tomorrow at 9:00 am.  
-Patrick Liestman

Members of Parkway and Robbinsdale who witnessed love, acceptance & welcome at the anti-gay conference at Redeemer.  
-Dianne

A note from Dan Ritter: Dearest Parkway Friends, Thanks so much for the wonderful farewell celebration you had for Bonnie and me! I enjoyed the cards & thoughts shared. Thanks also for the very generous money gift from the church! I'm starting to settle in at my new church and it feels pretty good there. But it's still very hard leaving Parkway. I have fond memories of Parkway, but especially of how friendly and caring everyone has been. My love and best wishes to all of you!



- 10 Cindy Haughey
- 12 Kayla Bryan
- 14 Mary Koon
- 18 Austin Stoneburg
- 20 Kathy Itzin
- 20 Jane Williams
- 28 Katrina Stamboulieh
- 31 Gracie Sprague

## Please Remember in Your Prayers

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Gerry Hartley</b>  | <b>Judy Oelkers</b> - (Pat Durand's cousin)              |
| <b>Rose Marie Lund</b> – (Durand's daughter)  | <b>Jim Jarvimaki</b>                                     |
| <b>Kay Leerssen</b>   | <b>Sarah Billington</b> – (Alexandra's mother)           |
| <b>Marlene Mars</b>   | <b>A.J. Houle</b> - (Dick and Nancy Larson's son-in-law) |
| <b>Harriet Thompson</b>   | <b>Terry Nolan</b>                                       |
| <b>Parkway and Robbinsdale Churches</b>   | <b>Theresa Carr</b> - (Friend of Bonnie McClain)         |
| <b>Eunice Shore</b>   | <b>James Karst</b>                                       |
| <b>Brett Sprague</b>  | <b>Jim and Marharet Heglund</b>                          |
| <b>Laura Mylan</b> - (Friend of Janet Zahn)   | <b>Greg Lipelt</b> - (Todd Lipelt's brother)             |
| <b>Jan Schwarz</b>  | <b>Brad &amp; Laurie Jones</b>                           |
| <b>Sheryl Griefe</b> - (Friend of Dick and Nancy)                                     | <b>Bill Morrison</b>                                     |
| <b>Bob Freeman</b> - (Cancer surgery)   | <b>Ken Gaines</b>  |
| <b>Lisa Flynn</b> - (Carol Anderson's niece)  | <b>Celeste Barrett</b> - (Friend of Bonnie McClain)      |
| <b>Veralyn and Dennis Bash</b> - (sister and brother-in-law of Lester Boerger)        |  |
| <b>Paul and Donita Boerger</b> - (Lester Boerger's parents)                           |  |
| <b>Sandy Thompson</b> - (Bob and Evie Thompson's daughter-in-law)                     |  |
| <b>Emil Makinen</b> – (Jim Jarvimaki's brother-in-law)                                |  |
| <b>Chris Murphy</b> - (Nephew of Tom and Kathy Malaske)                               |  |
| <b>Gabby Brown</b> - (rare form of leukemia, daughter of co-worker of David Goettsch) |  |
| <b>Lily Torman</b> - (Kathleen Hustad's friend's daughter with leukemia)              |  |

### Parkway Courier

Charlene Merz, Editor

The deadline for the August Courier is July 18.

Please bring your articles to the church office or email them to [Parkwayucc@gmail.com](mailto:Parkwayucc@gmail.com)

All articles are appreciated!

We have drivers available to give rides to church or other events happening at either Parkway or Robbinsdale. Please call the church office if you need a ride.

### Coffee Hour for July

Families Moving Forward volunteers

# You're Invited!



Kevin and Jenny invite you to help them celebrate their recent marriage with a celebration of cake and soda after the service on Sunday, July 7.

Congratulations to the newlyweds!  
Parkway sends love and best wishes!



## Hello! Welcome!

Welcoming doesn't end after a first meeting. In fact, being super friendly when you first meet someone and then having no memory of them when you next see them is almost worse than not welcoming them at all. *Am I that forgettable?* They might ask themselves as your eyes slide past them without recognition.

Everyone wants to be memorable. But few people remember us. In many arenas of life, we're a name on a list or a mere number. This anonymity presses on us when we jump from one job to another job or from one church to another church. New faces everywhere. Who knows us? Who remembers us? Remembering people communicates hospitality.

And if anyone should remember people, Christians should. We believe that God has made everyone in God's image, that God loves them and knows their name. So they should be important to us too.

How do you do it? Easy.

- Repeat their names in your first conversation with them.
- Pay attention to their face (not their clothes).
- Write down one thing to remember about them.
- Pray for them throughout the week.

Something powerful happens when you remember someone's name, when you remember a story they told, when you remember their favorite snack, when you remember where they're from, when you remember what they do for a living or what they're passionate about.

Our communities are full of men and women who are walking around feeling invisible. Unknown, unremembered, and unwelcome.

But God knows and remembers them. Let us go and do likewise.

We are serving the Northside in Christian love!

## Parkway Courier

### ***An Open and Affirming Church***

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Website: [www.parkwayucc.com](http://www.parkwayucc.com)

Worship Service: Sunday, 10 a.m.

Office Hours: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Monday – Thursday

Rev. Kathy Itzin, Senior Minister

Charlene Merz, Administrative Assistant

Bonnie McClain, Director of Music

Carolyn Hendel, Bell Choir Director

Molly Merz, Custodian

**Published by and for members and friends of  
PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

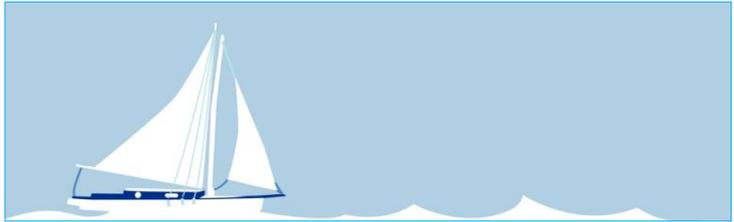




# Parkway United Church of Christ

## July 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7 p.m. Victory AA 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary	7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 a.m. Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11 a.m. Celebration of Kevin & Jenny	7 p.m. Victory AA 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary	10 a.m. Bible Study 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary	10 a.m. Finance	12:00 Out-to-Lunch Kay Leerssen's house 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 a.m. Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee Hour 12:30 CWOW	7 p.m. Victory AA 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary	10 a.m. Bible Study 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary		7:00 p.m. Council 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10 a.m. Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee Hour 12:30 CWOW	7 p.m. Victory AA 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary	10 a.m. Bible Study 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary		7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary		10-3 CWOW
28	29	30	31			
10 a.m. Outdoor Worship at Sanborn Park & Picnic 4:00 Dan's Concert	7 p.m. Victory AA 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary	10 a.m. Bible Study 7-9:30 p.m. Sanctuary				