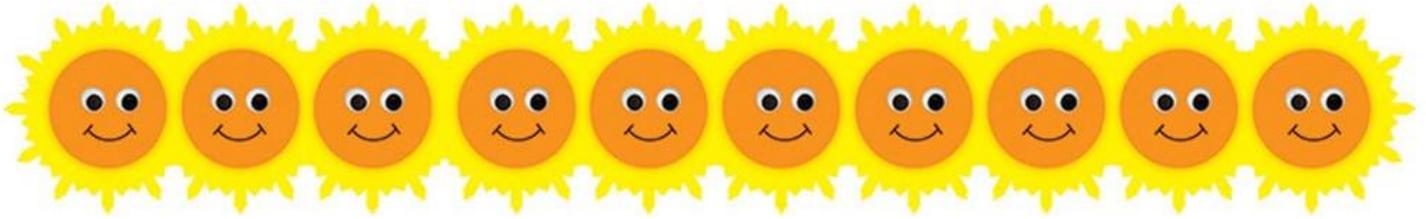


PARKWAY COURIER



Volume 54, No. 6

June 2019

(Rev. Emily Goldthwaite Fries was an associate minister at Mayflower UCC, before I came to Parkway. My appreciation and respect for her has only increased over the years. She now works as the Senior Congregational Organizer for Beacon Interfaith Housing, and recently preached at Robbinsdale UCC, while T. Michael Rock is on vacation. She gave me a copy of her sermon, (which was also intended for us), and permission to reprint it. Due to the limited space, I am only able to include portions of the entire sermon.

The Mess of Resurrection

— Rev. Emily Goldthwaite Fries

...sometimes what looks like death, is, in fact, a new beginning...

The caterpillar goes into its chrysalis, looks like death for a time, in its tiny tomb, and later reemerges as a beautiful, colorful butterfly.

But do you know what really happens inside that chrysalis? Modern science has allowed us to find out more – not exactly more answers, but much deeper questions. **Inside that chrysalis is not a caterpillar growing wings.** Not at all. Once the caterpillar's built its hard casing around itself, it **actually disintegrates into goo** – a soup of cells that doesn't resemble its former body in any way, though its microscopic heart and brain are in there somewhere. Over the course of a month, a seemingly new creature forms, and the wings that have always been within the caterpillar, like tiny rolled-up blueprints of its future form, finally unfurl until it hatches from the chrysalis and immediately takes flight, never looking back.

I love that the fathers and mothers of our faith recognized Easter as a season, and not just one fabulous holiday. When Spring comes to us in the Midwest, I can't help thinking about how seasonal resurrection is in the natural world around us. In this part of the country, where the seasons are so distinct and extreme, everything seems to be coming back to life, even us.

And the Spring Peepers, the tiny frogs, smaller than the cicadas actually, who live in wetlands and forests. I first encountered them in Iowa. They survive cold winters in temperatures as low as 8 degrees below zero, by staying still, and allowing up to a third of their body fluids to freeze. They will thaw back out when the temperatures rise again, and when the weather starts to warm up, they too will sing!

Some might say I'm reading too much into these creatures. Not only anthropomorphizing them, but also conveniently making them members of my religion. But where I'm going with all this is really the opposite – I think we don't appreciate how very literal the resurrections in our lives can be.

(cont. page 2)

Sometimes, we overthink it when our bodies and souls just know, like so many creatures do, that It's a natural part of life to go through a time that looks to all appearances like death in order to emerge anew.

Why is it so hard for any of us to believe that we can heal from old wounds, or a broken heart? Or recover from addiction or mental illness? Or envision Gods' church thriving ...rising on fresh wings of hope and witness and purpose so needed in this world?

Even exciting changes feel like death to us, when all the while new life waits with its wings curled tight for safekeeping. I want to thank you, Robbinsdale UCC, and Parkway UCC with whom I'll share this sermon later...for helping me notice something in scripture that I had never seen before.

The women go back to the tomb after having witnessed Jesus' death and burial, but they waited 'til after the Sabbath day... **How hard it must have been that Sabbath day for the women to simply do nothing**, to wait, to fold their hands and let themselves grieve. Their grief was so messy, their fear so real and so permanent, the last thing they could imagine on the other side of that Sabbath day was life.

You are in the midst of that 'Sabbath' time too, faithfully anticipating the transformation of your church – how are you doing with it? Are you restless to bring the change more quickly? Even in your excitement, does a fearful little voice within you whisper doubtful thoughts, thinking the doubt can delay the new life to come? Here's the thing. When the Spirit moves, when Jesus calls, when God acts in mysterious ways, the new life to come is not only a choice or a possibility, but a promise. On the other side of resurrection, you will be the same, and yet you will never be the same!

It doesn't make any sense at all, but it's as natural as the turning of seasons. Look around! Resurrection is everywhere. Everywhere! Why shouldn't we join the chorus of the cicadas and the frogs who in their short lifespans chant with all they've got? **Life is what it's all about!**

-Pastor Kathy

Water for "Gathering Sunday," September 15 by Dawn Carlson Conn

Parkway friends - we at Robbinsdale UCC invite you to join us for a traditional "Gathering Sunday" ritual we have celebrated for years. Please collect water from your summer travels to share at the beginning of worship on September 15th, when people will be asked to come forward and pour their offerings into a common bowl. (Water can be frozen or boiled, if you're concerned about its quality! - about half a cup is all you need.) If you don't travel, the water from your kitchen sink can still provide summer memories!!

Questions? Contact Dawn at calledtcreate@aol.com

June Scriptures

June 2 Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1: 1-11 (Luke tells us of Jesus' Ascension, as the start of the history of the early Christians in the Book of Acts.)

Acts 16: 16-34 (Paul heals a slave girl, is imprisoned, but is freed by an earthquake.)

June 9 Pentecost Shared Service at Robbinsdale

John 14: 8-17 (Phillip asks to see the Father and Jesus says those who have seen him have seen the Father, and they will send the Holy Spirit.)

Acts 2: 1-21 (Story of Pentecost)

June 16 Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31 (Wisdom, the voice of God, calls out to all!)

Romans 5: 1-5 (We have peace with God, whose love is poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.)

June 23 2nd Sunday after Pentecost (Kathy at General Synod in Milwaukee, Brien Preaching)

Galatians 3: 23-29 (In Christ there is no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female as all are one in Christ Jesus.)

Psalms 42 & 43 (As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, my God...Send out your light and truth; let them lead me!)

June 30 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19: 1-15a (Elijah runs for his life, then waits for God.)

Galatians 5: 1, 13-25 (We are free in Christ. Never submit to anything that enslaves you.)

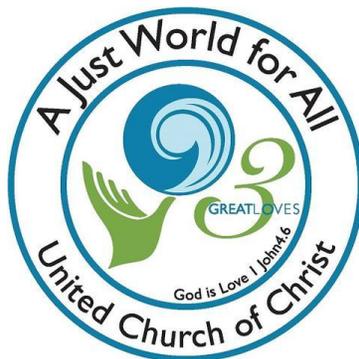


Out To Lunch Bunch

The Out to Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, June 13 at 11:30 a.m., at the 50's Grill, 5524 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Center 55429. Please let the office at Parkway know if you will be joining the group. 612-522-2982.

Taco Tuesday's at El Toro

Join us on the third Tuesday of each month at El Toro in Robbinsdale for lunch at noon. June 18 is the next get together. 10% of the proceeds from lunch will go towards the NEW CHURCH! Come for great Mexican food and lively conversation with members from both churches! It's a great way to get know each other!



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, 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 June calendar:

- Find a Bible verse that gives you great comfort and create a poster with it. (If willing, please share the verse or the poster on the private Parkway Facebook page.)
- Help kids in your neighborhood with a lemonade stand. Donate the proceeds to a clean water program in another part of the world. (Or you can donate to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation www.alexlemonade.org/ for childhood cancer.)
- Join a walk against hunger to raise awareness and funds for hunger alleviation around the world. (There is an annual Walk to End Hunger on Thanksgiving morning at Mall of America. Or check out Hunger Solutions www.hungersolutions.org/ for other opportunities.)
- Support someone today who needs encouragement for a positive action or decision.
-

Just Act!



Parkway and Robbinsdale are hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, June 21, 1:00 - 7:00 p.m. The drive will be held at Robbinsdale UCC, 4200 Lake Road, Robbinsdale, 55422. To donate, please register on your Blood Donor app, or online at www.redcrossblood.org, or call 1-800-RedCross (1-800-733-2767) Walk-ins are welcome. Please consider volunteering to help with the event, either at the registration table or in the treats area. We also need one or two people to help set up and teardown. To volunteer, please email me (Dianne Star) at stardianne@yahoo.com or call 612-868-7118.

What Will Be Our Legacy?

by Dianne Star

June is Pride Month. Beginning the first weekend in June, cities around the United States host Pride events, festivals and parades. The Twin Cities Pride Festival is June 22nd-23rd this year. New York City Pride is hosting a full month of WorldPride events, culminating with a parade on June 30th. This year we are remembering and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising. Few remember the details of June 28, 1969, but the legacy of the Stonewall Inn is that it launched the gay rights movement.

What will be Parkway's legacy? (Hey, maybe they'll name the senior living building "The Parkway.") Some people will remember us as the church whose building served the neighborhood. Our building has been used by an after-school program, a social service agency, several other churches and for AA meetings. Others will remember us as the church who responded to needs of the neighborhood. When students at a local school needed socks, we collected socks. When neighbors needed food, we put together meal bags. Still others will remember our inclusive welcome proudly displayed in the rainbow panels hanging in front of the church. There will be those who will remember our yard sales and walking tacos. Others will remember our commitment to serving St. Anne's Place and Families Moving Forward. Some may not know our name, but they will remember hats, gloves, mittens, toys, games, books, school supplies and other gifts we contributed. I also hope we will be remembered as the church that physically left North Minneapolis but did not abandon its residents or organizations. We will continue to serve!

What do you think our legacy will be?

I hope we are remembered as those church people who acted like Jesus.



Parkway Family,

Thank you so much for your support and kind words as Paul and I prepared for our big day! Your prayers helped to keep the rain away through all our pictures, the ceremony and dinner!

Much love from the Rapps



Thank you



much love, Pam and Paul

HAPPY/THANKFUL OFFERINGS

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

May 12, 2019

Thank you bell choir!

I am thankful for education opportunities and the chance to experience PSEO!
-Haley Bloomquist

Carol Anderson lending me the book "Rising Out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist." I highly recommend reading it.
-Emily Braun

We are thankful for last week's great choir program and thankful for all the years of wonderful music at Parkway.
-John and Mary Lou

May 19, 2019

Dan's & Bonnie's years of service to Parkway.
-Andy & Kim

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!
Thanks Bonnie and Dan!



- 1 Isabelle Shaffer
- 5 Eunice Shore
- 7 Gabrielle Graham

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Gerry Hartley
Rose Marie Lund – (Durand's daughter)
Kay Leerssen
Marlene Mars
Harriet Thompson
Parkway and Robbinsdale Churches
Eunice Shore
Brett Sprague
Laura Mylan - (Friend of Janet Zahn)
Jan Schwarz
Sheryl Griefe - (Friend of Dick and Nancy)
Bob Freeman - (Cancer surgery)
Lisa Flynn - (Carol Anderson's niece)
Veralyn and Dennis Bash - (sister and brother-in-law of Lester Boerger)
Paul and Donita Boerger - (Lester Boerger's parents)
Sandy Thompson - (Bob and Evie Thompson's daughter-in-law)
Emil Makinen – (Jim Jarvimaki's brother-in-law)
Chris Murphy - (Nephew of Tom and Kathy Malaske)
Gabby Brown - (rare form of leukemia, daughter of co-worker of David Goettsch)
Lily Torman - (Kathleen Hustad's friend's daughter with leukemia)

Judy Oelkers - (Pat Durand's cousin)
Jim Jarvimaki
Sarah Billington – (Alexandra's mother)
A.J. Houle - (Dick and Nancy Larson's son-in-law)
Terry Nolan
Theresa Carr - (Friend of Bonnie McClain)
James Karst
Jim and Marharet Heglund
Greg Lipelt - (Todd Lipelt's brother)
Brad & Laurie Jones
Bill Morrison
Ken Gaines
Celeste Barrett - (Friend of Bonnie McClain)

Congregational Meeting Minutes

On Palm Sunday, April 14, the congregation met to vote on this resolution:

"Parkway United Church of Christ will faithfully and dutifully proceed with consolidation with Robbinsdale United Church of Christ, with the intention of voting to dissolve and emerge as a new and expanded entity with Robbinsdale on September 15, 2019.

Parkway United Church of Christ calls Rev. Kathy Itzin and Rev. T. Michael Rock to be Co-Pastors and Teachers of the consolidated church to be formed on September 15, 2019."

After some explanation and discussion led by Moderator Greg Merz and Pastor Kathy the congregation voted in favor of this recommendation.

On Sunday, April 28th, the congregation gathered for another meeting. At that meeting, Greg Merz introduced Kris Brogan, the broker that Parkway has retained to help with the sale of the property. After calling the meeting to order, Pastor Kathy led us in prayer.

Greg recommended that the congregation accept proxy votes as these have been submitted by Jennifer Berry, Molly Merz, Carol Bulchuck and Dianne Star. This was motioned, seconded, and voted upon, passing by unanimous vote.

Greg handed out copies of the similar and different points in the proposals from the four developers and explained them. Kris Brogan answered many questions and gave explanations that detailed areas regarding the process of zoning, getting approval, neighborhood response, past histories of developers, and building experience specific to North Minneapolis. Greg also answered many questions regarding the process and legal concerns. He also explained that the Council had unanimously voted, chosen to recommend the option of Senior Housing by Premier Management to the congregation.

Questions were asked and points were made by many members of the congregation. After approximately an hour of explanation, questions and discussion, a vote was taken by written ballot as to which of the four proposals to accept. The vote was 43-1 in favor of Senior Housing by Premier Management.

Parkway Courier

Charlene Merz, Editor

The deadline for the July Courier is June 19.

Please bring your articles to the church office or email them to **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.

Altar Flowers for June

On June 2nd, the altar flowers are in celebration of Jim and Ann Jarvimaki's 46th Wedding Anniversary.

Coffee Hour for June

Hosted by the Choirs

We are serving the Northside in Christian love!

Parkway Courier

An Open and Affirming Church

3120 Washburn Avenue North

Minneapolis, MN 55411

Telephone: 612-522-2982

Fax Number: 612-522-1439

E-mail: parkwayucc@gmail.com

Website: 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

Daniel Ritter, Organist

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

June 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee Hour 12:30 CWOW	3 7 p.m. Victory AA	4 10 a.m. Bible Study	5	6	7 UCC Annual Meeting June 7-8	8
9 Worship at RUCC 12:30 CWOW 3:30 Divine Revelation	10 7 p.m. Victory AA	11 10 a.m. Bible Study	12 10:30 a.m. Finance	13 11:30 Out-to-Lunch Bunch at 50's Grill	14	15 Kitchen in use 8:30-4:00
<i>Father's Day</i> 16 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee Hour 12:30 CWOW	17 7 p.m. Victory AA	18 10 a.m. Adult Class Noon -Taco Tuesday at El Toro	19	20 7 p.m. Council meets at Robbinsdale	21	22
23/30 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11 a.m. Coffee Hour 12:30 CWOW	24 7 p.m. Victory AA	25 10 a.m. Bible Study	26	27 HUB Fair beginning at noon thru eveining	28	29