



The Grapevine

September 29, 2020



Worship with Parkway Online—Sunday, October 4 at 10:30AM!

Worship service for this coming Sunday will be recorded and a YouTube link will be provided on our Parkway Christian Church page. **Thank you to all who have shared the links and continue to do so! And thank you to the volunteers who continue to devote their time to bring virtual worship to Parkway.**

Breadcrumbs

Greetings All,

I recently had a conversation with a friend and the subject of belief came up. At one point in the conversation he asked, “do you believe that?” My response was “well... I thought I believed that, but when you put it like that I guess, I don’t.” Knowing what we don’t believe can at times reveal what we truly believe. As my friend pressed me on the issue, I started a brief mental evaluation and concluded that I could fill up several storage units with the things that I don’t believe. Counselors and therapist often talk about their clients’ core belief system. Just like our computers operate off Mac OS or Windows, our belief systems operate off of information and memories. From infancy on we gather information through our senses, and we store them. Eventually, some of those thoughts, ideas and experience become core to our being. These core memories build our belief system. Our belief system guides our choices and our actions. We operate from them unconsciously.

In the world of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion this is called unconsciousness bias. **Unconscious biases**-social stereotypes about certain groups of people that individuals form outside their own conscious awareness. Everyone holds unconscious beliefs about various social and identity groups. Unconscious bias is like a bug in our computer that causes it to malfunction. There is no need to get rid of the computer, it just needs to be de-bugged and upgraded. Some of these updates take place naturally over night while we are sleeping. We wake up and we are no longer afraid of the boogey man, we understand that a person can be angry with us, and still love us. We like updates that happen overnight without much effort on our part. But there are others updates that require you to purchase, install, wait and then verify. We don’t want to manually upgrade our computers, but we do it because our computers function as social connectors. Likewise, sometimes our core belief system has to be manually updated or changed. Next week’s breadcrumbs might be challenging for some, but have no fear we are all in this together.

Blessings,

Pastor Sonna

Sunday, October 4—Larry Moose, Elder

Have you ever been told to GO TO HELL? I think I've been told that many times. I've always been perplexed by that. You see, I love to travel. I have responded to that command in many different ways such as - Basic economy or first class? You go first.

WHY? I'm not packed. Is this a free trip? I love the Cayman Islands, especially the little spot named Hell. I've been there but it wasn't a free trip.

Have you ever been told to GO TO HEAVEN? I just can't recall anybody saying that to me. My answer could be - Right now? When? Tomorrow? This year? Am I ready? All very perplexing. We just don't know.

Intertwined with Reconciliation, I try to recognize my past, work on the present, and pray for forgiveness as I move forward to my last trip. I think I still have some positive things I can do here on Earth. I hope I can be positive despite the stupid people. Oh my. Here I go sliding backward.

I have to remind myself everyday - "Larry. Do your best and God will be there." Whether it's Heaven or Hell, both trips are free. I hope I'm choosing the right trip.

Volunteer Opportunity—Helping the Homeless:

The homeless in Springfield still need assistance, and Parkway has committed to providing sack meals to assist Helping the Homeless in Springfield. Julie Benson, of this ministry, is taking some light breakfasts, and dinners to homeless folks on the streets. She is helping by feeding those homeless folks who are not being served by other groups. We are asking our Parkway family to assist by providing food and assembling sack meals, which we will deliver to Julie. Her ministry takes meals to the homeless where they are on the streets.

Our church is signed up to provide 45 sack meals in October! (When I had tried to volunteer for September meals, Julie already had volunteers for the entire month). We will assemble the sack meals and deliver to Julie, who is taking meals to the homeless folks where they are on the streets. We need volunteers to help provide the evening sack meals for Wednesday, Oct. 7, with sandwiches (hamburger buns, turkey, ham & cheese), chips, and bananas. (Already have cookies) and a helper to assemble meals. Please contact **Jan Day at 217-341-8202** or janiferday@yahoo.com ahead of time to volunteer. Thanks to All!

Blessing of the Pets—this Sunday!

This year Parkway will have a "blessing of the pets" on Saint Francis of Assisi Day, **Sunday, October 4 at 2:00PM** on the church grounds. St. Francis of Assisi had a love for all creatures. Our beloved pets provide us with true companionship, joy, health and healing whether they be furry, feathered, or finned. The ceremony will include a gathering and greeting, scripture and prayer, and pet blessing. We invite everyone to bring their pets to the churchyard to receive this special blessing and share in the joy of God's creation! For more information, please contact Pastor Sonna at revsonna@parkwaychristian.church.

NOW HIRING!

Parkway Christian Church is now hiring a Video-Sound & Social Media Tech Support person. Duties are helping to record, edit, and upload worship service. The hours are Wednesday and Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings for approximately 3 hours each night. The pay rate is \$15/hour. Start date is as soon as possible and a background check is required. Please email resume to the church office or for more information, office@parkwaychristian.church or text Pastor Sonna for more information at 479-561-4701.

Free Pantry:

As part of our diaconate outreach, Parkway will soon have a free outdoor mini-pantry for those in need. The pantry will be small, so it will not stock the quantity and variety other food pantries can. It will be “give what you can” or “take what you need”. The pantry will be located on the north side of the church parking lot. Inside will be non-perishable food items and personal care products. Those who wish to contribute may do so at their discretion when convenient once the pantry is available. Whether it be a need for food or a need to give, the pantry will be accessible at all times to everyone no questions asked. For more information or questions, please contact Judy Large at large.j@sbcglobal.net. More details to come once the free pantry is up and running!

Diaconate Activity September 2020:

The Board distributed \$1922.50 to the Diaconate for the month of September. The Diaconate approved donations of \$1419.15 to the Disciples Mission Fund, Ronald McDonald House, Pastor’s Discretionary, and Sandburg Elementary School.

Upcoming Events—Cancelled:

Unfortunately, due to safety concerns during the ongoing pandemic, we are sad to announce the cancellation of the following 2020 events: The annual Cookie Walk and the annual Boyce Hayride/Wiener Roast.

Reconciliation Ministry Offering 2020: *The Rocks are Crying Out!*

In Luke 19:39 to 40 we read that some of the Pharisees in a crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher rebuke your disciples.” “I tell you,” he replied, “If they keep quiet the stones will cry out.” Though we know that God’s spirit will cause the stones to cry out if we remain silent, when it comes to being an anti-racist, pro-reconciling church, silence is not an option.

This year’s reconciliation offering will continue on **Oct. 4**. You can find out more about the work of the fund and view a reconciliation special offering video at reconciliationministry.org. Your contributions can be mailed to Parkway or dropped off at the blessing of the pets on Oct. 4. Please write “reconciliation offering” in the memo line.

Thank You:

Dear Parkway Christian Church,

Thank you for your generous donation to Senior Services of Central IL. Thanks to your gift of \$1000.00 on 08/11/2020, older adults in Central Illinois have access to non-medical services which enhance quality of life and promote independent living. We greatly appreciate your support.

Gratefully,

Carol Harms, Executive Director

Reminder:

Just a friendly reminder if your group or committee of 10 people or less plans to meet in the church, please schedule with the church office. Thank you!

Birthdays this week:

Michaela Conner, September 30; Elizabeth Jones, September 30; Jadyne, October 1; Laurie Myers, October 1; Gayle Burg, October 6.

Anniversaries this week:

None that we are aware of this week.

Our Prayers for Joys & Concerns

WE CHOOSE TO SERVE: Painted the food pantry, linked Gertrude up with the YouTube services, Sunday School, connections with church family/friends; helping with flowers and wedding items for a friend.

PRAYER CONCERNS: *CCIW Prayer Calendar—Reconciliation Offering and Ministry, World Communion Sunday † Pastor Sonna—Prayers for Pastor Sonna’s family † Judy Large—The family of Jeff Henderson † Debbie Schoppenhorst—Those fighting the virus; homeless and jobless individuals; divisive political climate in our nation; the family and friends of Breonna Taylor; the impact of the Breonna Taylor decision on people of color in our community and around the nation; students, parents, and teachers as they navigate teaching and learning in a virtual world; prayers for the Nominating Committee as they start their work † Kelly Huser—Continued prayers for Jim and Shelley M., Jim and Rita W.; pray for more love and kindness among us all † Roger and Sharon Holmes—Karen Alsup-prayer for health concerns; safe travels for my mom and sister to visit friend in Florida; Jim Waterman-prayers for health challenges † Jan Grant—Silent concern; a job for Katie † Janet Medley—For cousin Marcy & family; nephew needs a job, Matthew has a specialist appointment on Thursday for his blood clots † Gayle and Louie Burg—Ron, son-in-law awaiting result from test † Marsha Funneman—Please pray for June and her family—she is the 1 year old granddaughter of a friend and was recently diagnosed with an aggressive cancer †*

JOYS: *Gayle Burg—Visit with Margaret went well, she is adjusting, food is good, and she especially likes the big set-in tub; Stratton's are camping with family; many of my Family Connection calls were positive they been to doctor and got good results; I've been looking for wooden block which I made and a tray to my TV tray with God's help I founds both Sunday † Sonia Schmitgen—Thankful for every good day † Debbie Schoppenhorst—Learning new games with friends; Dalton got a job with benefits; Youth Group painted the food pantry; Jim W. health is better and he got to come home from the hospital; Jim M. treatments going well; continue to have jobs and can complete those jobs while working from home; Marsha's opportunity to preach in Rushville; good time with fellowship on the lawn at church † Roger and Sharon Holmes—Fall weather † Kelly Huser—Spending time with my mom; nice church picnic, great seeing everyone † Jan Grant—All the ministry going on even when we can't gather in person † Janet Medley—Had a wonderful lunch with family passing through town Sunday † Marsha Funneman—I thoroughly enjoyed delivering the scripture and my message to First Christian Church of Rushville on Sunday! † Chris Boyce—My son and his family did find a house to move to—there were a lot of problems during that weekend but they got it done—thank you everyone for all the prayers †*

Continued Prayers: All those who are struggling with the effects of the global pandemic; Medical staff and volunteers; Barb A.; Karen Alsup; Samantha Giannone; Deb Dennison; Gary Wood; Ann Knutson; Harvey H.; Lisa Tomisino; Steve A., Karen A., Dana A.; Kathy Alexander; Jim Marsaglia; Gertrude Koehler; Joe—homeless man; Lora Cline; Virginia Armour; Diane Elliff; Gavin Pope; Margaret Woodall; Vee Maday; Garnette Winch; Sarah Smith; Scott Kaufman; Sandy Klyber; Our Service Members and their families.



Parkway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

“Inviting Disciples.....Sending Apostles”

“Come Learn.....Go Serve”

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Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/parkwaydisciples

Church Office Hours: M-F 8AM—2PM

Pastor: Sonna B. Key