



Spirit News

April 11, 2019

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
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Prayer Requests

- Prayers for Carolyn Crofoot, a former member of UCCSV, and Jan Edson's sister, as she transitions from this life to the next. We lift Carolyn into God's light for comfort and peace in the end stages of her illness. May God wrap arms of comfort around Jan and her brother and the rest of the family as they all say goodbye.
- Pray for Bill Harmon to feel better soon (anonymous).
- Prayer for "the Servants" of our church, our community and our world. When helping others, whether one at a time, or for groups or for the entire population, each of us experience and feel God's love (anonymous).
- Ongoing prayer for Suzanne Schmidt. She will have back surgery on May 6 and 8 at Shady Grove Hospital. Prayer and healing thoughts are welcome (Dan Davis).
- Ongoing prayer for David Barker, Amie's Dad. God be with David as he goes for cardioversion. Pray for a positive outcome and increased quality of life. Pray for safe travel for him and Marcia (Marsha), Amie's Mom, as the hospital is a long drive from their home. Pray they both find courage and strength in this chapter of their lives (anonymous).
- Ongoing prayer that we might be satisfied with enough and prayers for employment opportunities for David (Shelly Moore).
- Continued prayers for my Aunt following surgery – she is improving (Renee Morales).
- Continued prayer for Wayne Tipping as he deals with heart issues (Paula-Marie Read).
- Ongoing Prayer for Stephen to find a job closer to home to shorten his long daily commute (John Bartkowiak).

Ongoing Prayer Requests: Please notify Nita at uccsv@verizon.net should you wish to change your ongoing requests. Please note that ongoing prayer requests sent anonymously will be removed in one month.

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's Palm Sunday and we've arrived at the top of the roller coaster ride of Holy Week. This Sunday we will remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem to the cheers of the crowd and the waving of palms. We will get our own palm branches and shout Hosanna. But we know the story of the week to come. All Lent long God has been moving and now following the story of Jesus Christ we will begin God's move to the cross. Begin your Holy Week by being a part of this special Sunday worship at 10am.



Help our Neighbors Start their Day Right

Kids and adults need a good breakfast to help them focus at school and at work. Germantown and Gaithersburg have some of the highest rates of food insecurity in Montgomery County. A box or two of breakfast cereal can make a big difference to a family in need.

During April, please place your donations of breakfast cereal in the basket in the narthex to support the Germantown Help Food Bank.

Donate Flowers and Help Decorate the Sanctuary for Easter

Donate a flowering plant to help make Easter Sunday a beautiful profusion of color and beauty. You can donate in honor of someone or some thing or you can donate in memory of lost loved ones. We suggest a donation of \$10 per plant. After Easter Sunday you are welcome to take a plant home with you or leave it at the church to be given away or planted on the grounds. (We have Easter flowers that were planted last year that are flowering next to our sidewalk right now and announcing Spring has sprung!) Donations accepted through Palm Sunday.

Holy Week

Join us for Holy Week at UCCSV and see where God is moving next:

Palm Sunday, April 14th at 10am "God Moves Towards Jerusalem"

Wave the Palms with us as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and begin the story of Holy Week!

Maundy Thursday, April 18th at 7pm, "God Moves to Show Friendship and Love"

NOTE the new time for this worship service.

In a change of format for this service we will not have a meal but instead start with worship at 7pm. Join us for a night of fellowship and prayer as we tell the story of Jesus' last supper with hands on spiritual practices like foot washing, prayer stations, and communion in small groups.

Good Friday, April 19th, 7:30pm, "God Moves to The Cross"

This is our most solemn service of the year when we tell the story, through music and

scripture, of Jesus' journey to the cross. If you truly want to appreciate the joy of Easter Sunday, you must first experience the pain and death on Good Friday. Let music, through hymns, choir pieces, and instrumental music move your soul, while silence and the darkening of the sanctuary remind us how God moved to the cross with love as the goal.

Easter Sunday, April 21st, 10am, "God Moves out of the Tomb"

This is the one service of the year you do not want to miss! God moves out of the tomb and our world was changed forever! We'll celebrate with amazing music (including a string quartet), wave ribbon wands, shout words we've avoided all Lent, and more! Join us and bring your friends and family!

Searching for a Nursery Caregiver

We are searching for a Nursery Caregiver at UCCSV! We are looking for someone who is available from 9:30am-11:30am on Sunday mornings. This person would play with and care for our babies and toddlers in the nursery during worship. If there are no babies and toddlers that Sunday, the Nursery Caregiver would be expected to assist the Sunday School teacher for the Lower School Class. We are offering \$45 a Sunday morning. If you know someone who might be a good candidate for this position, please have them get in contact with Pastor Holly at

HollyRJackson@gmail.com.

Volunteers - Talk to Us

Are you a volunteer out in the community? Great... we'd like to hear about your volunteering adventures outside our church! It would be amazing to hear the stories of all the volunteer work that our UCCSV community is doing. By sharing your stories, you educate the rest of us, and maybe we might want to get involved as well. Please send us a story of the

groups, organizations, efforts, etc. that you volunteer for and we will print them in the Spirit News (one story at a time). Send your stories to John Bartkowiak at jbinmd@gmail.com.

Earth Day Sunday is April 28th

Mark your calendar now for a special Earth Day celebration at church on Sunday, April 28th! We're kicking off a month long celebration of God's Creation and we want you to be a part of it!

Sunday Volunteers Needed

Sign up lists for the month of May are now available for both Liturgists and Ushers. If you are available, please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office this Sunday. Many thanks.

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group

Our next book is *The Reckoning* by John Grisham. We'll meet Sunday 12 May at 11:30am in the Narthex. June's book is *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

See below for book descriptions created by Dan.

Happy reading, Deborah

The Reckoning by John Grisham (October 2018): story set in MS where a prominent veteran commits a serious crime and does not want to talk about it. Probable PTSD element. Typical legal and other twists and turns. Library has 102 book copies, 21 available, and 7 on hold; there are 20 CD copies, 6 available, and 1 hold. Sounds like a better availability than we thought last time we met.

The Alice Network by Kate Quinn (2017): sounds like an excellent story of a post-WW2 young pregnant woman who goes to Europe to find her beloved missing cousin Rose. It

becomes a spy-thriller story. The library has NO electronic or CD copies, 31 book copies with 0 available and 39 holds. A very good choice but not for 1 month from now.

Calendar

Trustees Meeting (6:30pm) – April 15
Council Meeting (7:00pm) – April 15
Maundy Thursday Church Service (7:00pm) – April 18
Art Committee – Decorate for Good Friday (8:00pm) – April 18
Art Committee – Decorate for Easter (9:00pm) – April 19
Good Friday Service (7:30pm) – April 19
Mens Breakfast (9:00am) – April 20
Easter Sunday – April 21
One Anothering (10am) – April 27
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:30am) – April 28
PFLAG (2:30pm) – April 28
Ladies Night Out (7:00pm) – April 29

