



Spirit News

April 12, 2018

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
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Prayer Requests

- Grateful for Spring beauty; cherry blossom trees; and prayers of healing for Eva, Betty Jo, Molly (Joyce Miller).
- Prayer for my Cousin, Kevin Parr, who lost his best friend this week to suicide. Please ask for strength for Kevin and peace for Greg's soul (Terri Molaski).
- Ongoing Prayer for my mother, Margaret P. Hall "for illness and God's will," sister's Patti and Brinda Hall – caretakers (Jim Hall)
- Ongoing Prayer for the bereaved families, for the orphans and widows for the sickly and hopeless and for all who are travelling for safe journey to the destinations (anonymous).
- Ongoing Prayer for all our UCCSV Members to prayerfully consider how to best contribute to the many workings of our congregation. We do so many wonderful things. Allow yourself to join the community (anonymous).
- Ongoing Prayer for all the youth in our schools. May they be safe. May all those fighting for gun law change be protected and guided by you Oh Lord (Deb Anderson).
- Ongoing Prayer for Wayne Miller (Heidi's boss). Pray for health and healing for Wayne as he faces health challenges (Heidi Harmon).
- Ongoing Prayer for the political situation in Kenya as they are going through ethnic violence since post election (Maggie Nyamweya).
- Ongoing Prayer for the pain and suffering of so many in our congregation, DC metro area, and those impacted around the world by disaster, catastrophe and hunger (Shelly Moore).

- Ongoing Prayer for Stephen to find a job closer to home to shorten his long daily commute (John Bartkowiak).
- Ongoing prayer for Laurene Karimi who is battling stage 3 breast cancer with so much courage (Terri Molaski).
- Ongoing prayer for Phyllis Anderson and family. Phyllis is declining with dementia. Surround her and her daughters who are caregiving. Please grant them patience and peace (Deb Anderson).
- Ongoing Prayer for Patti and Gary Dennison who are suffering through severe illness and very difficult times (Andrea Dennison).
- Ongoing Prayer for Michelle Cohen – Has multiple myeloma (Terri Molaski).

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.

Havruta

Our adult bible discussion group on Sunday mornings at 9am is called Havruta, a Jewish term meaning that we seek to wrestle with God's word by studying, analyzing, and debating the text.

For this Sunday our focus will be on
Luke 24:36b-48

This Sunday at UCCSV

Can you imagine eating breakfast with a ghost? The disciples encounter Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Whether they have already experienced him as the Risen Christ or not, they are still trying to figure out what to make of this Jesus that has come back from the dead. Is he a ghost? Was he ever really dead? And then

Jesus asks an odd question of them: "Do you have anything to eat?" Why would a ghost need to eat breakfast? Join us this Sunday for worship at 10am as we wrestle with a hungry Jesus and what that means for us today. There will be Confirmation class after fellowship time.

Cancellation

The Rain Garden Clean-up scheduled for this Sunday has been cancelled.

Floyd Price to be Honored



Floyd Price will be honored for his service to UCCSV at the Seabury Celebration of Service at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 24 at the Washington National Cathedral. This is a joint

celebration between the UCC Potomac Association, the Episcopal Diocese of Washington and Seabury Resources for Aging. A lunch reception follows the service. If you would like to attend, please let Holly know by April 19.

Floyd has been an integral part of our church since it began. He was one of the first persons to become involved in creating the congregation and is a founding member. Once the building was completed, Floyd volunteered as the church's janitor as well as serving on numerous committees. Floyd loves music and is the last remaining member of the first choir at UCCSV. He wrote a booklet of songs for the children of the church and was an active volunteer with the children's choir. He still volunteers weekly in the church office. Please see the bulletin board across from Holly's office for more information about Floyd.

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness Book Discussion

The United States has the highest rate of incarceration in the world - higher than Russia, China and Iran. Over 2.3 million men in America are in prison - about half for drug crimes. Thirty years ago, before the "War on Drugs" was implemented, there were only 300,000 people in the American prison system. Seventy percent of all men imprisoned are African-American or Hispanic. An African-American male is sentenced an average of a 20 to 50 times longer prison term than a white male convicted of the same drug crime. These convictions remain on their records permanently, limiting their voting rights and their ability to find employment.

Pastor Holly will lead a discussion of the book and this important social justice issue on April 18th and 25th.

Ladies Night Out

Save the date! Monday, April 30, we will be having Ladies Night Out at Mama Lena on Clopper Rd starting at 7pm. We usually dine on pizza & salad. The price is typically \$12-\$15, beverages are extra. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

UCCSV is an inclusive community. Members who identify in any way with the Ladies of our community, you are encouraged to come.

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group

We chose our book for May, *A Gentleman in Moscow: A Novel*, by Amor Towles.

This is a story of Count Alexander Rostov, who in 1922 was deemed an unrepentant aristocrat

by a Bolshevik tribunal. The Count was placed under house arrest in the attic of the Metropol, a grand hotel across from the Kremlin.

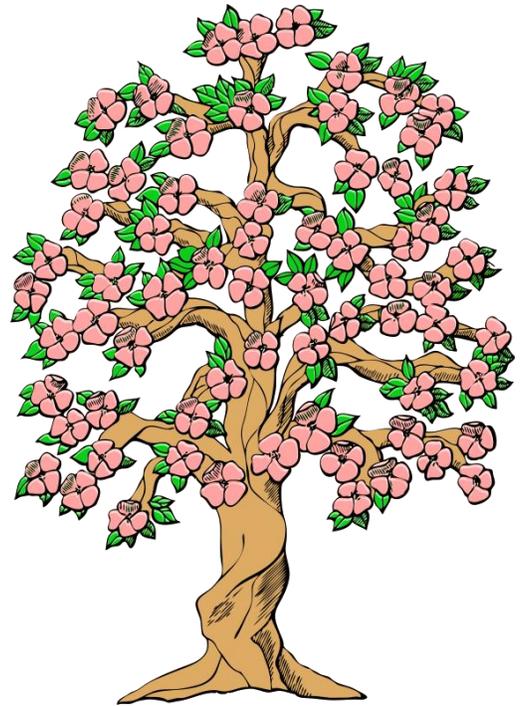
Brimming with humor, with a glittering cast of characters, fully rendered one beautiful scene after another, this novel casts a spell as it relates the Count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.

A hold is necessary on print & electronic formats at the library.

We will meet Sunday, May 6th at 11:30am in the Narthex.

For you fast readers, we also chose the June book, A River in Darkness by Miasaji Ishikawa.

Happy Reading! Deborah



Calendar of Events

- Relay for Life Paint Night Fundraiser
(7:00pm) – April 13
- Confirmation Class (11:15am) – April 15
- Trustees' Meeting (6:00pm) – April 16
- Council Meeting (7:00pm) – April 16
- The New Jim Crow Book Discussion
(7:00pm) – April 18
- Men's Breakfast (9:00am) – April 21
- Social Action Committee Meeting
(11:15am) – April 22
- Earth Day Group Pix
(11:30am) – April 22
- PFLAG (2:30pm) – April 22
- Confirmation Class (11:30am) – April 22
- Lord's Table at St. Martins
(1:00pm) – April 24
- The New Jim Crow Book Discussion
(7:00pm) – April 25
- Ladies Night Out (7:00pm) – April 30