



# Spirit News

April 18, 2019

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

- Blessings, prayers of support – love for the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday of our church's son – Isaac Leslie Anderson Fraley (Dad).
- Pray for family members. Pray for family members who are sick, bereaved and going through difficult times (anonymous).
- Pray for Deborah and Paula-Marie for peace and clam during transition, home selling, time of change. Pray for Rachel Estrada's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday (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).
- 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](mailto: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.*

## Holy Week

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

**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.

## It's Easter at UCCSV!!

All Lent we have watched God moving in our lives and in the world around us. This Sunday we get to celebrate as God moves out of the tomb and invites us to do the same. You don't want to miss Easter morning at UCCSV. We'll have amazing music, ribbon wands, communion, an egg hunt for the young at heart and more. Bring your friends and family and let hope bloom in your heart as you celebrate the holiest day in the Christian year! Worship begins at 10am! Christ is risen! Alleluia!!



## 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.



## April 28<sup>th</sup> – Get to know our local environment

In April and May Seneca Valley has several environmental activities planned. After our worship service on the 28<sup>th</sup>, please join us on a walking tour of the four corners of the church property. We also hope to pick up any litter that may be about.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:jbinmd@gmail.com).

### Story from Dick Bertelmann

"I volunteer as an English "Conversation Club" facilitator at two of our local libraries three days a week. The program is designed to give an opportunity to people in the community, for whom English is a second language, to practice speaking in a non-judgmental environment. Most of them have either studied English in their own country or here in the United States. However, they tend to speak only their native language at home and therefore have little opportunity to practice. As a facilitator I lead the conversation on subjects ranging from American history to contemporary topics. I meet with my participants every Wednesday and Friday morning at the main library in Montgomery Village and Thursday morning at Quince Orchard library." Contact Dick to learn more.

## 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.

## 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.

## Calendar

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  
PFLAG (2:30pm) – April 28  
Ladies Night Out (7:00pm) – April 29

