



Spirit News

April 26, 2018

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
Phone: (301) 540-3449
Email: UCCSV@verizon.net
Website: UCCSenecaValley.org

Prayer Requests

- Let us pray for the bereaved, the hopeless and the ones travelling to their respective destinations (anonymous).
- Pray that my cardiologist appointment goes well and I safely get there. I pray I have a good outcome from surgery in May (Claudine).
- Prayer of Thanksgiving for Molly after 28 surgeries has finished college (Joyce Miller).
- Prayer for St. John's (Hains) UCC as they move through the ONA voting process. Hains church is Kristin's parents' church in PA (Kristin Smith).
- Continued prayers for strength and courage for Michelle Cohen as she battles multiple myeloma. Please Lord, give her as much time on this earth as possible so she can spend it with her young daughter (Terri Molaski).
- Continuing prayers for Ed and his family as Ed receives Hospice care (Heidi Harmon).
- Ongoing Prayer for Isaac as he goes along a most difficult path. Give him strength in knowledge of God's grace and his family's love (anonymous).
- Ongoing Prayer for Kyle Plush, the young teen killed in an accident in his mini van. Please help his mother and the rest of his family and friends and community heal from this tragedy. May his soul be at peace (anonymous).
- 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 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 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 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 Acts 8:26-40 and John 15:1-8

This Sunday at UCCSV

For those of us brought up in more conservative or evangelical churches we might have learned how to share our faith with others and what to say or do in order to help others connect to God and Jesus. In progressive circles however, even the word evangelize can make some feel uncomfortable. But how are people in our wider communities supposed to

know churches like ours exist or that it's possible to be both Christian and inclusive and open minded if we never talk about why we come to church or what our faith means to us? How are we supposed to grow the church if no one knows we exist or why? This Sunday in worship we will consider how to talk to others about God without scaring them away and still being authentic about our own faith journeys. Join us!



God's Creation

Help Protect God's Creation

Want to connect with our lawmakers about making sure there are protections in place for our environment but you don't know how to start? In the back of the Sanctuary this week there will be post cards you can fill out to help lobby your Senator around environmental issues. Fill one out and drop it in the bowl and we will send them off to Interfaith Power and Light to send en mass to our representatives. Make a difference today!

Ladies Night Out

Save the date! This 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.

Gaithersburg Interfaith Nature Walk

POSTED BY ANNA AWIMBO ^{17SC} ON APRIL 03, 2018 ONLINE AT INTERFAITHCHESAPEAKE.ORG

Join us on a spiritual walk in the park to learn about what's happening to our local Muddy Branch watershed and the web of life that depends on it.

Come learn what you and your congregation can do to be faithful stewards of the environment.

WHEN

May 06, 2018 at 3pm - 5pm

WHERE

Malcolm King Park
1 School Dr
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
United States

[Google map and directions](#)

CONTACT

Bonnie Sorak ·

bonnie@interfaithchesapeake.org · 443-799-0349

To RSVP online, go to:

<http://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/gaithersburgnaturewalk>

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.

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



Ledo Pizza Night May 8

The second Tuesday of each month will be UCC Seneca Valley night at Ledo Pizza on Wisteria Drive in Germantown. Ledo will give UCCSV a portion of its sales (between 10%-20% depending on the amount spent) from both eat in and carry out all day. You must present a flyer (available at church or at Ledos Tuesday evening starting at 5:30pm) to have your sale counted towards our total. Join us for an inexpensive, kid-friendly, evening out and help us raise some funds for UCCSV!

Confirmation Night Out: What Have You Been Doing All Year?!

On Friday, May 11th, this year's UCCSV Confirmation Class invites the congregation to join us for a great night of intergenerational fun. Starting at 6:30pm with a pizza dinner you will get to experience a lesson in the life of our Confirmands. Play the fun games they have played. Learn how to study the Bible using emojis. Learn some of the ways they have been praying together. Have a great time with this

church's youth in celebration of all they have accomplished this year. Then on Sunday, May 20th you'll be ready to cheer them on as they make their Confirmation and become full members of UCCSV. Join us!!

Adopt-A-Road

Montgomery County's Adopt A Road (AAR) program encourages residents and businesses in the County to participate in a community activity by keeping our roadsides litter free. Currently there are more than 2,500 volunteers who have adopted over 450 road segments and cleaning over 1100 miles of road in an effort to Keep Montgomery County Beautiful. You can be a part of this program too!

Your participation will help reduce trash and litter along County roads and maintain a clean and attractive environment. Ultimately it helps protect the Chesapeake Bay. Litter that is washed into storm drains, travels to nearby creeks, streams, major rivers, and eventually can reach the Bay.

Join UCCSV friends and members as we make a part of Middlebrook Road beautiful.

When: Saturday, May 12th
Where: Meet at Seneca Valley High School
Time: 9:00am

Summer Camp?

What says Summer more than Summer Camp? So many of us have fond memories of camp experiences. Would you be interested in helping to make some memories for UCCSV kids and the kids in our wider community? I am trying to gauge interest in holding an arts and music focused summer camp/vacation bible school at UCCSV this year (or next) and I need to know if you might be willing to volunteer. This

camp could take many forms - it could be a half day day camp. It could also be an evening camp held over the course of a week, or a series of Wednesday evenings held over the course of the summer. Picking a biblical theme we would then come up with art projects, music, storytelling, games, and possibly science experiments to share with children ages 4-12 or intergenerationally with whole families. But before I start to gather curriculum and plan dates and start publicity, I need to know if there is interest from volunteers. (We can also have youth volunteers but I need enough adults to help supervise.) If you would be willing to volunteer please email me asap at HollyRJackson@gmail.com and let me know if daytime or evening would be better for you. Imagine what great camp memories we could make for our kids and the kids in our area!

Calendar of Events

Ladies Night Out (7pm) – April 30
CE Committee Meeting (11:30am) – May 6
Deacons' Meeting (7pm) – May 7
Pizza Night at Ledos – May 8
Intergenerational Fun Night (6:30pm) – May 11
Adopt-A-Road (9am) – May 12
Mother's Day Service and Baptisms – May 13
Men's Breakfast (9am) – May 19
Pentecost and Confirmation – May 20
Trustees Meeting (6:30pm) – May 21
Council Meeting (7pm) – May 21
Lord's Table at St. Martins (1pm) – May 22
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) –
May 27
PFLAG (2:30pm) – May 27