



Spirit News

August 24, 2017

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

- Prayers of Thanksgiving for the life of a friend who came within a hair of being killed in an auto accident (Helen Hanes).
- Prayer for Sarann Lim. Celebrating the life of Melisa Johnson's Mom, Sarann Lim (anonymous).
- Thank God for the time I spend with my family in Columbia (anonymous).
- I hope my daughter and granddaughter feel better soon (Deborah Barnes).
- Prayer for my sister, Donna, who has been diagnosed with early stage breast cancer and will have surgery Friday. Pray that the cancer is contained and removed completely (Susan).
- Pray for Deb Anderson/Bob Fraley. Gratitude for my husband on our 29th wedding anniversary and prayers requested for his continued healing (Deb Anderson).
- Prayer of thanks for a day spent with old friends yesterday . . . a day filled with laughter and love (Terri and Dee Dee).
- Ongoing Prayer for Stephen to find a job closer to home to shorten his long daily commute (John Bartkowiak).
- Ongoing prayer for Helen for strength as she continues her 3rd fight against cancer (Dee Dee Molaski).
- Ongoing prayer for my aunt Jean who was recently diagnosed with terminal bladder cancer (Terri Molaski).
- Ongoing prayer for Laurene Karimi who is battling stage 3 breast cancer with so much courage (Terri Molaski).
- Ongoing prayer for Helen who is battling cancer for the third time in her young life (Dee Dee 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 during my continued treatment and palliative care for cancer (Maridell Mason).

*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

As the summer begins to come to a close we are wrapping up our journey through the Old Testament with the story of Moses being saved as a baby by taking a ride in a basket down the river. The subtitle of the story could be: *Nevertheless How All The Women Around Baby Moses Persisted.* Join us for worship at 10am as we discover what resistance looked like for these courageous women and think about what lessons we can learn from them. George Benskin V will be playing piano and Catherine Benskin will sing for us. Holly will preach. We'll also be blessing backpacks and work implements and briefcases before the school year begins again so make sure to bring these to worship with you. Make your Sunday more meaningful and prepare yourself and your family for the week to come by coming to church!

Community Office Hours Change

Please be advised that my **community office hours at Starbucks for today, Thursday August 24th, are cancelled** due to a family commitment. Also, **starting next week, on August 31st** and from now on, my hours will change slightly from 3:30-5:30pm to 4:30-6:30pm due to family transportation issues. **This means that you are welcome to stop by and see me at the Starbucks in the Kingsview Shopping Center, across Clopper Road from the church, every Thursday starting on August 31st from 4:30-6:30pm.** Some people have asked me, "Does anyone ever stop by?" The answer is a resounding YES! In fact, it is very rare when someone from church *doesn't* stop by on a Thursday afternoon. This is *your* chance to drop in and talk to me, about *anything* that is on your mind, and not have to worry that you are interrupting my work. **For those two hours, meeting with people IS my work.**

For those who have been asking for evening hours I will also, starting in September, add one set of evening hours a month. **I will be having dinner at the Panera on Century Blvd. (near the Germantown Regal movie theater) from 6:30-8:30pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. You are welcome to join me on Wednesday September 27th for dinner or dessert/coffee and tell me how your day/week/month is going or ask any questions or share your thoughts.**

Feed Your Body and Soul: Soup, Salad, and Spirit

For many at UCCSV Lenten Soupers are a valued way to have dinner with friends and feed our souls and minds with discussions and activities. We have decided to try to extend that experience throughout the year with once a

month dinners on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Much like Lenten Soupers there will be a sign up sheet to sign up to bring food to share or to help out with set up or clean up. We will eat together from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and then have a time of discussion or participate in an activity together from 7:30 to 8:30pm. Come for part of the evening or for the whole experience. Have dinner with us. Bring a friend. Feed your body and your soul! Families are welcome. **Our first Soup, Salad, and Spirit will be on Wednesday, September 13th.**

Blessing of the Backpacks

This Sunday! Bring your backpacks, work implements, briefcases, etc. to church this Sunday. We will spend time during the Children's Time blessing them for the school year (and return to regular work schedule) to come. If you forget or don't have something to bring, don't despair! We will have something you can take home with you to put on your backpack or briefcase or work bag to remind you that God is with you and that you are a blessing to the world around you (even at school and work)!

Sunday School Teacher Training

Would you like to teach Sunday School this year? Do you feel called to serve the children and youth at our church? Then please join us after worship this Sunday, August 27th for a teacher training. Both Sunday School classes have brand new curriculum this year. We will introduce you to these dynamic and fun lessons and help you feel confident and positive about leading UCCSV's Sunday School classes this coming fall.

Volunteers Needed!

Please sign up this Sunday on the bulletin board outside the church office.

We are in need of Liturgists for the **month of September**. In addition, we are in need of Ushers for the **month of September** (we prefer to have 2 Ushers each Week).

August Worship Station - Remembering Our Baptisms

Baptism is one of the few sacraments we have in the United Church of Christ. It is, we believe, God's grace made real through ordinary means. Simple water blessed and used to represent how God welcomes us into the family and makes us God's own. It is water that washes us clean, not because we are in need of scrubbing up in order to make us acceptable to God, but because God wants to remind us that we are awash in grace and love every day of our lives. So touch the water to remember your baptism, whether you were an infant or child or adult when you received it. If you have not been baptized imagine what this sacrament might say to you and if you would like to participate in it. If you would like to be baptized, please talk to Pastor Holly. Feel free to take a post-it with a name on it to remind you of how you were renamed as part of your baptism. With water and prayer you were recognized as a beloved child, a son, a daughter, a loved one. God is proud of you. Know that by touching the water and/or taking a name and feel it in your bones.

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. No one tells us what to think, but we pray that God is present in our

discussions and gives us new insights and ideas.

For this Sunday we will focus our discussion on Exodus 1:8-2:10.

Calendar of Events

Sunday School Teacher Training (11:30am) – This Sunday, August 27

PFLAG (2:30pm) – This Sunday, August 27

Adopt-A-Road (9:00am) – September 9

Welcome Sunday – September 10

Soup, Salad and Spirit (6:30pm) – September 13

Men's Breakfast (9am) – September 16

One Anothering at Deb's (10:00am) – September 16

Fellowship Committee Meeting (11:15am) – September 17

Grubby Sunday – September 17

Trustees Meeting (6:00pm) – September 18

Council Meeting (7:00pm) – September 18

Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) – September 24

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group (11:30am) – September 24

PFLAG (2:30pm) – September 24

Evening Hours with Holly at Panera Bread (6:30pm – 8:30pm) – September 27

Congregational Speed Dating "Get to Know Me" (7:00pm) – September 29