



Spirit News

December 14, 2017

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

- Pray for my son to help him with his mental illness, his new job and school (anonymous).
- Prayer for Lin who is dying – that she is ready to meet God and that her family will find peace and comfort (Lois, Tom and Adam).
- Prayer for family of Jackie Avey King, friend of the Fusses, who passed away this week (anonymous).
- Prayer for Maridell Mason who is in Hospice Care at Frederick Memorial Hospital. May she find peace and her family find strength during her final journey (anonymous).
- Ongoing Prayer for the Riley and Gorman family as they face their first Christmas without their beloved Kristen (anonymous).
- 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 Matthew 1: 18-25

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's Pageant Sunday!! Join us for worship this Sunday at 10am and experience the story of Christmas through the eyes of the animals in the stable as presented by the children, youth, and adults of UCCSV. Many people have been working at rehearsals and behind the scenes to make sure the shepherds, cows, chickens, pigs, donkeys, camels, Magi and Mary and Joseph are with us this week. Also there will be special brass music for the Prelude and Postlude so get there early to hear some of our talented volunteer church musicians. You won't want to miss this special Sunday of joy at UCCSV! After worship the Confirmation Class

will meet for some holiday fun. Please remember to bring your donations for the Christmas baskets and gifts. We can't wait to see you!

Christmas Eve Worship at 7:30pm

Christmas Eve is a Sunday this year which means you get two opportunities to celebrate Christmas and experience the joy and promise of Christ's birth! Sunday morning will be a regular worship service at 10am for the 4th Sunday of Advent. Then come back to join us for Sunday evening for a beautiful worship filled with story, song, and wonder. Worship begins at 7:30pm with a short time for special music followed by the traditional lessons and carols with an intergenerational twist. Feel free to bring a non-breakable nativity set so that we can build an amazing manger scene as we move through our worship. At the end of service we will light candles (or glow sticks for children) and sing our way back out into the world knowing God is with us. Don't miss this most special of nights at UCCSV!

One Anothering

One-Anothering will meet on Saturday, December 30, 10-11:30 am at Jeanne Springmann's house. We meet to share what's going on in our lives, study the scripture for the following Sunday, and eat a little too.

Staff Christmas Love Offering

We appreciate our church staff 365 days a year, but Christmas is a great time to show that appreciation in a tangible way. If you would like to voluntarily contribute toward a gift card for Pastor Holly Jackson, Director of Music Ministry Stefan Petrov, Office Manager Nita Stone and

Custodian Anna Gavidia, please do so no later than Sunday, December 17th by one of the following means:

1. Put a check in the offering plate with the memo line marked "Staff Love Offering."
2. Put cash into an envelope marked "Staff Love Offering" and place it in the offering plate.
3. Hand your cash donation to one of the Deacons.

The total amount of donations will be divided among the best staff a church ever had! Let's show our appreciation for the tireless and loving dedication they demonstrate for our congregation all year long!

Calendar of Events

Christmas Pageant (10:00am) – December 17
Confirmation Class (11:30am) – December 17
Fellowship Committee Meeting (11:30am) – December 17
Trustee's Meeting (6:00pm) – December 18
Council Meeting (7:00pm) – December 18
Christmas Fund Offering (10:00am) – December 24
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:30am) – December 24
PFLAG (2:30pm) – December 24
Christmas Eve Night Service (7:30pm) – December 24
Lord's Table at St. Martins (1:00pm) – December 26