



Spirit News

February 22, 2018

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

- Pray for Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Community – prayers of peace and calm; healing for Luz’s foot (anonymous).
- Pray for former members who are visiting (anonymous).
- Pray for Samantha whose boyfriend of 10 years overdosed and died this week. Prayers for peace and comfort (Suzanne Schmidt).
- Ongoing Prayer for Fred Van Orman in hospice care. Widom and comfort, ease Dad’s suffering (Bill and Ruel).
- 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 Women’s Retreat and its participants (Shelly Moore).
- 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 Psalm 22:23-31 and Romans 8:26-28, 38-39

This Sunday at UCCSV

Do you ever pay attention to the simple act of breathing? Our sacred texts connect the breath of God with our own aliveness—God blew breath into us at creation and we continue to breathe all of creation in and out of our bodies constantly. The early church also believed that breath and Spirit were one in the same. How might the meditative practice of paying attention to our breath be, in and of itself, a prayer of connection to God? When we embrace our bodies as the holy vessel of God, we become even more our True Selves—which has been there all along. Join us for worship at 10am this Sunday as we learn to breathe with God and to

listen to and value our God given bodies. Come and rest, come and worship.

World Wise Web - Listening for Wisdom: Lenten Soup-ers

Join us next Wednesday at 6:30pm for a simple soup supper and stay for a chance to practicing listening for wisdom. Together we will watch a short TED talk by Novelist Chimamanda Adichie who reminds us that our lives and our cultures, are composed of many overlapping stories. Adichie tells the story of how she found her authentic cultural voice -- and warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding. We will then look for connections to diverse stories in the Bible and discuss what it means to listen to others tell their stories and find a way to authentically tell our own. If you want to watch the video ahead of time check it out here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9lhs241zeg&list=PL7ZqPBEw7l-3CLYEc8m_DZBut08zYK6R7&index=2

Lenten Soupers Sign up

Here's a sign up for the food for the Lenten Soupers, beginning 2/21. Traditionally, the Deacons have taken care of the first meal out of five and then we invite the other participants to sign up for the rest.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A4A722A02-lenten2>

Let me know if you'd like me to sign up for you. I know not everyone loves signup genius!

Peace, Jen Fuss

Preacher Needed for March 4th

We are in need of a preacher for Sunday, March 4th. Holly will be on the Women's Retreat and so will not be able to be in worship

that day. If you are interested in bringing the message that day please contact Holly.

Helping Care for Our Fellow Members and Friends

When someone has been ill, undergone surgery or suffered a particularly difficult circumstance and is in need of a little help (particularly with a meal or two)... how can their fellow members and friends find out about this need and/or how can we offer our help? Here's how:

1. If you or someone you know from our community is in need of a meal or two, we ask that you let Pastor Holly or one of the Deacons know about it so that the help that is needed can be arranged and coordinated.
2. If you would like to be on a resource list of people who are willing to be contacted regarding providing a meal or two to someone in need, we ask that you let Pastor Holly or one of the Deacons know.

The more we know, the better we can help. Let us love one another.

Reducing Gun Violence

Thanks to Ruthanne for sending this link.

http://muse.jhu.edu/book/21475?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=gun_violence_redux

Scam Alert!

Thanks to Bill R. for sending us this alert.

Beware of a financial scam currently happening regarding your Pepco account. The scammers, presenting themselves as official representatives of PEPCO are calling to inform business and residential customers that they

are behind on payments, and must catch up or risk service termination. Do not give any private information over the phone. Contact PEPCO directly from your phone if you have a question about your account. If you suspect you have been contacted by a scammer please contact the MCPD Financial Crimes Section at 240-773-6330. Please see the PEPCO press release on PEPCO's web site for more details.

Calendar of Events

Social Action Committee Meeting (11:30am)
- February 25
Confirmation Class (11:30am) – February 25
PFLAG (2:30pm) – February 25
Lenten Soup-ers (6:30pm) – February 28