



Spirit News

February 28, 2020

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

- Thanks for 7 years of "legal" marriage for Beth and Laura, for the love and support of this church community and the knowledge that we are all children of God – no exceptions! (Beth and Laura).
- Prayer for the Hoffman's Grandma. She is very sick and in the hospital (Chloe Jackson).
- Blessed to see the big 60 in a few days. Blessed to have my parents here celebrating my birthday (Renee Morales).
- Ongoing Prayer for inspiration and motivation in Dave's job search; healing for Shelly's knee (recent fall) and family health concerns (Shelly Moore).
- Ongoing Prayer for Alexis Symanski. Recovering from a chemo during January and a radical mastectomy on 2.17.20. Alexis is a member of the Schmidt family (Suzanne Schmidt).
- Ongoing Prayer for Maggie's Dad. Continue to pray for my Dad who is recuperating well after his fall (Maggie).
- Ongoing Prayer for Dawn Oler, our dear friend, who is having surgery to remove a tumor. We pray it is benign and her recovery is easy (Terri & Dee Dee).
- Ongoing Prayer for Cheryl's grandmother who is in a coma; pray for Ben who is battling stomach cancer (Maggie).

Ongoing Prayer Requests: Please notify Nita at uccsv@verizon.net should you wish to change your ongoing requests. Please note that ongoing prayer requests will be removed after one month. Feel free to resubmit your ongoing prayer requests.

Sally Duncan

This past Tuesday our dear friend and church sister Sally Duncan passed from this world into God's arms. Holly was privileged to have been able to visit with her on Monday before she died, and she was alert and aware of her presence. Holly sang to her and helped make her comfortable and prayed over her before she left. At this time further details on Sally's arrangements are still forthcoming. The family has asked if Holly would lead a service at Asbury Village, but are still working out dates. At UCCSV will most likely also have a special remembrance for her as part of a Sunday Worship sometime soon. Please keep her family in your prayers as they say goodbye and begin to grieve.

Condolences to our Office Manager Nita Stone

Sadly, Nita's beloved Mother passed away late last week. We are keeping Nita and her family in our prayers as they grieve. Please continue to support Nita through this time and show her that she has the love and support of this community.

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.

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's the first Sunday of Lent and we are digging in to our worship series "Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places." Where do you look for love, peace, hope, acceptance? How do you deal with the temptations of life that make it a struggle to get that love? Can you reframe those temptations to remind you of where love can truly be found? We'll explore the answer to these questions and more through scripture, music, prayer, and a dialogue sermon conversation with Clarisse and Miranda Lin. Together we'll share communion and deepen our connections to God and to each other. Join us for worship at 10am!



Looking for Love Lenten Theme

Lent begins this Sunday, March 1st. Throughout the season of Lent we will focus on all the ways in which we look for love (acceptance, joy, peace, etc.) in the wrong places. If we're honest we can admit that we often look for wholeness and happiness (love) in places that offer only temporary "good feelings" and satisfaction. But scripture offers us many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, healing, can REALLY be found. Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to re-assess where we are searching for meaning, for "redemption." Together let's see if we can find love and in doing so prepare our hearts and lives for the truly good news of Easter.

Lenten Soupers Start March 4th!

Come join us on Wednesdays during Lent for a simple soup dinner followed by a short video and discussion. Since our theme for Lent is "Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places" our videos will be focused on building healthy relationships (not just couple and love relationships, but family relationships and friendships as well), tending to your mental and emotional health, and living out your truth in the world. Please join us for one session or all the sessions. You can watch the videos ahead of time but we will also watch them together as a group. Each video will be paired with a scripture and will also be connected to the themes and issues we'll be wrestling with in worship.

March 4th - "The Difference Between Healthy and Unhealthy Love" by Katie Hood
https://www.ted.com/talks/katie_hood_the_difference_between_healthy_and_unhealthy_love?referrer=playlist-a_better_you&language=en#t-132625

March 11th - "How To Ask for Help" by Heidi Grant
https://www.ted.com/talks/heidi_grant_how_to_ask_for_help_and_get_a_yes

Sign up here to help provide soup or sides:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A4A722A02-lenten4>

March 18th - "How to Build Your Confidence and Spark it in Others" by Brittany Packnett
https://www.ted.com/talks/brittany_packnett_how_to_build_your_confidence_and_spark_it_in_others

Sign up here to help provide soup or sides:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A4A722A02-lenten4>

March 25th - "The Gift and Power of Emotional Courage" by Susan David

[https://www.ted.com/talks](https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_david_the_gift_and_power_of_emotional_courage)

/susan_david_the_gift_and_power_of_emotional_courage

Sign up here to help provide soup or sides:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A4A722A02-lenten4>

April 1st - "The Danger of Silence" by Clint Smith

https://www.ted.com/talks/clint_smith_the_danger_of_silence and **"Get Comfortable with Being Uncomfortable"** by Luvvie Ajayi

https://www.ted.com/talks/luvvie_ajayi_get_comfortable_with_being_uncomfortable

Sign up here to help provide soup or sides:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A4A722A02-lenten4>

Volunteers Needed ASAP!

We are in need of Liturgists and Ushers for the **month of March**.

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

As always, thank you for all you do!



Join UCCSV friends and members as we make a part of Middlebrook Road beautiful. Trash grabbers, gloves, reflective vests, and trash/recycling bags provided.

When: Saturday, April 11
Saturday, May 9
Saturday, June 13
Saturday, August 8
Saturday, October 10
Saturday, November 14

Where: Small fenced in parking lot of Seneca Valley High School off of Middlebrook Road (near the auditorium entrance)

Time: 9:00 am

Questions/RSVP: Jenny at utzhome@gmail.com

Looking forward to spending a Saturday morning with everyone.

Women's Retreat

Ladies, the Women's Retreat is just around the corner, May 1st through 3rd. We are totally full with "overnight" participants but would love to open Saturday's schedule to anyone who would like to join in for a day of renewal, community and dining. Starting the morning with breakfast, move through the day with an active agenda and enjoy evening dinner with us. The cost for the day will be \$25.00. Please let Pam Van Prooyen know if you plan to join in (301-275-9931).

Calendar

CE Committee Meeting (11:30am) – March 1
Vote Forward Meeting (2pm) – March 1
Playground Committee Meeting (7pm) – March 2
Lenten Soupers (6:30pm) – March 4
Deacons Meeting (5pm) – March 8
Lenten Soupers (6:30pm) – March 11
Adopt-A-Road (9am) – March 14
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:30am) –
March 15
Womens Retreat Planning Meeting (11:30am) –
March 15
Church Council Meeting (7pm) – March 16
Lenten Soupers (6:30pm) – March 18
Men's Breakfast (9am) – March 21
PFLAG (2:30pm) – March 22
Lenten Soupers (6:30pm) – March 25
One Anothering (10am) – March 28