



Spirit News

January 10, 2019

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
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Website: UCCSenecaValley.org

Prayer Requests

- Prayers for my friend and her family. Her dad is having surgery tomorrow (Friday) and it's going to be very serious. He is 81 and almost died this past summer following complications from a similar surgery, so my friend is really concerned. My friend's name is Sharon Cassidy, and her dad's name is George Dewey. His wife is Amy and they have two sons, Andrew and Steven. They are like family to me so any prayers are much appreciated (Amie Barker).
- Pray for family of Becky Waas who passed away. She was a special grandma to a friend of Jen Fuss (anonymous).
- Prayer for Ella, friend of Helen who has pancreatic cancer (anonymous).
- Prayer for furloughed federal employees and anyone else looking forward to their next paycheck (anonymous).
- Ongoing prayer request for Shane Earl, a childhood friend of Amie Barker. Shane is fighting a recurrence of lymphoma and has lost his health insurance. He has a 13 year old son. Pray for healing and the resources to make it through this challenging time (anonymous).
- Continued prayers for my Aunt following surgery – she is improving (Renee Morales).
- Continued prayer for Wayne Tipping as he deals with heart issues (Paula-Marie Read).
- 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:
Book of Job

This Sunday at UCCSV

What is it about water that is so powerful? We need it to survive. We use it endlessly for our daily tasks. We are born in water. We get baptized into God's family with water. Join us for worship this Sunday at 10am as we consider and celebrate Jesus' baptism and recall our own baptisms or think about what it means to be baptized. Together let's wrestle with how water and belonging and the gift of the Spirit can change lives. Let's wonder about water and justice and hope.

Before You Come to Church on Sunday

At the present time our local meteorologists are forecasting snow for this upcoming weekend. Of particular concern is the timing of the snowfall. While the forecast is for a minimal snow total in terms of numbers of inches, the bulk of the storm is presently forecast to happen overnight Saturday and through Sunday midday, so exactly when we would be heading out to church. If there are 3-4 inches of snow our church parking lot may be

inaccessible Sunday morning. So before you head out to church on Sunday please check our website at www.uccsenecavalley.org or visit our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/UnitedChurchOfChristOfSenecaValley/>). We will update both pages to say whether we are or are not having church on Sunday morning depending on weather conditions.

Be A Fellowship Host

Calling all bakers and yummy food makers! As you know, it has been the tradition for the Fellowship committee to host the coffee hour every Sunday after church for our congregation and visitors. While the 7 lovely ladies that make up the committee enjoy putting out a little spread every week, we would also like to give others the opportunity to serve our church by opening up Fellowship hosting to the entire congregation. We are asking members and friends to sign up to bring goodies for coffee hour. There have already been a few people who have shown interest and we are hoping for many more. This is an easy way to get involved with the church without a huge time commitment. And we'll make sure you have plenty of support! There will always be a Fellowship committee member available on a Sunday to help with set up and clean up and answer any questions you might have. The sign-up sheet will be the bulletin board outside the church office starting Sunday, January 6th. If you have any questions, please see Terri Molaski.

January Worship Station - Take a Look In the Mirror

Come visit our worship station in the back of the sanctuary this month and take a look in the mirror. There are 5 mirrors at this station, each one asking you to look at yourself in a different way. As we begin this new year, how do you

see yourself? How does God see you? Take a look in the mirror and find out.

January is Tuna Month

Your donations of tuna can help feed a family in need. Please help support the Germantown Help food bank by donating cans or non-perishable packages of tuna, other fish, or meats during January.

Getting to Know You - Congregational "Speed Dating" January 18, 7pm

How well do you really know the people next to you in the pews on Sunday? Want to find out more while laughing and having a great time? Join us for Congregational "Speed Dating" on Friday, January 18th at 7pm. This is an easy way to connect more with our community. We will have snacks and you are invited to bring your own drinks. Participants will be paired up and then use a short list of fun questions to get the conversation started. Then after a few minutes you will be paired with a new person to learn all about them. We keep rotating until we've gotten a chance to talk to everyone. As several past participants can attest this is a fun activity that will help to connect you with new people and even learn some interesting things about yourself. Come join us!

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group

We are to read Origins by Dan Brown. Jan 20th at 11:30 in Narthex by the fireplace.

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 27th

Please join us after worship for an important Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 27th. This is our yearly budget discussion. The Church Council will present its proposed budget and the congregation, members and non-members alike, will get a chance to ask questions and better understand how we spend your donations. Remember, a church budget isn't just a financial document, it's also a moral and missional document. As the Bible says, when your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Our budget should tell us what our priorities are and how we seek to serve God. After the budget presentation and questions members of the congregation will be asked to vote to approve the budget. As a church member this is one of your rights and responsibilities. Please make the time to be a part of our decision making process and help us be the church together.

Save the Date!

Women's Retreat
May 17, 18, 19
Hallowood Retreat Center



More information to follow!

Calendar

Chancel Choir Practice (7:30pm) – Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31
Trustees' and Council Meeting (6:00pm) – Jan. 14
Congregational Speed Dating "Get to Know Me" (7:00pm) – Jan. 18
Men's Breakfast (9:00am) – Jan. 19
Tea Party Hosted by Deborah Tomblyn (3:00pm) – Jan. 19
Pulp Pilgrims Book Group (11:30am) – Jan. 20
Bowling Children & Youth – Jan. 26
Congregational Meeting – Jan. 27
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) – Jan. 27
PFLAG (2:30pm) – Jan. 27
Ladies Night Out (6:00pm) – Jan. 28