



Spirit News

January 11, 2018

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
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Prayer Requests

- Prayer for Helen Hanes in physical therapy at Asbury (anonymous).
- Pray for Buddy Kosc and family. Buddy passed away before Christmas. Prayers especially for his wife Josephine (Heidi's cousin).
- Pray for those traveling (to places even colder than here) for work (anonymous).
- Prayer for family of Dale Flory, Uncle of Jen Fuss, who passed away recently (Fuss Family).
- Ongoing Prayer for Wayne Miller (Heidi's boss). Pray for health and healing for Wayne as he faces health challenges (Heidi Harmon).
- Ongoing Prayer (thru January) for Les Fraley. Prayers for Les as he reaches the half-way point in receiving radiation treatment on an aggressive tumor on his lip – bring him comfort (Bob Fraley).
- 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 29, Amos 5:21-24 and Mark 1:4-11

This Sunday at UCCSV

When have you heard the voice of God lately? Does it whisper or boom in your life? Is it silent? This Sunday we will consider God's voice particularly in light of Jesus' baptism, How does God name us and call us? What is God calling us to? How should our lives change because of that call? What about God's call to justice? We will especially consider our call to justice in light of this weekend being the celebration of Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Holly will preach. Our hymns and anthem will join us together in the tradition of African American spirituals. You

will have a chance to listen for God's voice in your life and to renew your baptism or acknowledge how you too are beloved by God and as such as a vital part of the Beloved Community. In this cold season warm your body, heart, and soul at church this Sunday.

Volunteer on MLK Day and Serve Your Community

Looking to volunteer and serve our community in honor of MLK Day? Here is a great opportunity:

On Monday, January 15th Montgomery County will celebrate the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service! We will join with thousands of Americans across the country who will celebrate the national holiday honoring the life and work of Dr. King by doing service in their communities. Montgomery County's main service event will take place again this year at the North Bethesda Marriott Hotel and Conference Center.

Montgomery County's MLK Day of Service Multi-Project Event & Volunteer Fair: Monday, Jan. 15, 1-3 pm Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center (5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda) Participate in your choice of dozens of family-friendly service projects addressing a range of issues, including packaging food for the hungry, crafting costumes for kids in hospitals, making dog toys for area shelters, creating hand warmers for the homeless, and writing letters to seniors and troops. There will also be a volunteer fair where you can talk with local nonprofits and government agencies about their missions and year-round volunteer needs. Sign up—or just show up! Get more details at https://montgomerycountymd.galaxydigital.com/need/detail/?need_id=302578.

Game Night!

Save the Date! Friday, January 19th is Game Night at UCCSV. Last year over 30 of us had a great time playing games together of all different kinds. So please come join us and bring a friend! We'll play from 7-9pm. We'll have snacks and drinks and some games.

Bring a few of your favorite games along too!



Annual Budget Meeting

This year's Annual Budget Congregational Meeting will be held after service on Sunday, January 21, 2018.

Ladies Night Out

Save the date! Monday, January 29, we will be having Ladies Night Out at Mama Lena on Clopper Rd starting at 7pm. We usually dine on pizza & salad. The price is typically \$12-\$15, beverages are extra. There is a signup sheet on the "Coming Attractions" bulletin board near the Gathering Room.

UCCSV is an inclusive community. Members who identify in any way with the Ladies of our community, you are encouraged to come.

Life Line Screening

Do you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure? Have members of your family suffered from these ailments? Do you



have a poor diet? If you answer “yes” to any of these questions, you may want to consider being screened for your risk of stroke through the services of Life Line Screening. Life Line Screening uses ultrasound technology to view the plaque build-up in your carotid arteries, the main arteries that carry blood to the brain. Blockages in these arteries are a leading cause of stroke. We are pleased to host this Life Line Screening event 2/2/2018 at United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley. Register for a Wellness Package with Heart Rhythm for \$149. All screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Your Health is in Your Hands, so call 1-888-653-6441 or go to: www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word **circle** to **797979** for more information or to pre-register.

Confirmation Class

We kicked off this year's confirmation class with 10 youth! We can't wait to see how this class evolves and what they learn and in turn teach us about God and community. Now it's time for you to become part of this amazing process.

Please sign up on the “Coming Attractions” bulletin board to help provide lunch for our confirmands and teachers.

Be sure to ask the confirmands what their experience has been so far and be sure to share with them a story of your faith journey. This is a church wide effort as these youth are all our children. Make a difference and get involved today!

Volunteers are Needed

We need your help! Havruta leaders, Liturgists and Ushers are needed for February. Please consider signing up this weekend on the bulletin board outside the church office.

One Anothering

On Saturday, January 20, the One Anothering Women's group will be hosted by Luz Granada.

We have a light brunch and discuss the scripture that will be used in Sunday's service and usually address a question posed by the host to spur discussion. It's a good time for fellowship and a time to get to know each other outside church. We meet once a month and take turns hosting.

We are open to new members - just please let me know you will be coming by sending an email to luzmagranada@gmail.com or giving me a call.

-Luz Granada

Women's Retreat Update!!!!

Am Kolel Retreat Center, Bealsville, MD
March 2nd through 4th

Ladies mark your calendars! The Committee for the Women's Retreat has been working hard planning a weekend of renewal and fellowship. This year's theme will be, “OWNING OUR GIFTS.”

The cost of the retreat is \$100.00 which will include lodging, all food and materials for the weekend.

Registration forms are available and accepted with payment. Because there is a limited amount of space we encourage sign-up as soon as possible. Scholarship funds are available if needed; please see Pastor Holly.

We are working on “Annex” plans if we find that there is a resounding interest; we don’t want anyone left out.

Please see Pam Van Prooyen regarding registration.

Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management will be hosting a public meeting in Annapolis, MD on Tuesday, January 16th from 3pm-7pm about the Trump Administration's offshore drilling plans. The meeting will use an open-house format to provide information about the Trump Administration's plan to open more than 90% of the U.S.'s offshore regions to oil and gas development, including regions off the Maryland Coast. ***This plan is a dangerous threat to the health of the Chesapeake Bay.***

Public participation in the meeting is highly encouraged as this will be one of the only opportunities for the general public to meet with officials overseeing the development of this offshore drilling plan.

The meeting will be held:

Tuesday, January 16th
3pm-7pm
Double Tree by Hilton
210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD

Contact Joyce Miller if any questions

Calendar of Events

Trustee’s Meeting (6:00pm) – Jan. 15
Council Meeting – Jan. 15
Family Game Night (6:30pm) – Jan. 19
Men’s Breakfast (9:00am) – Jan. 20
One Anothering (10:00am) – Jan. 20
Annual Budget Congregational Meeting
(11:30am) – Jan. 21
Lord’s Table at St. Martins (1:00pm) – Jan. 23
Social Action Committee Mtg. (11:15am)
– Jan. 28
Sunday School Teacher Training (11:30am)
– Jan. 28
PFLAG (2:30pm) – Jan. 28
Ladies Night Out (7pm) – January 29