



Spirit News

January 24, 2019

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

- We ask for courage and strength and peace to all those affected by the pipeline fire and explosion in Mexico. We ask for tolerance of all peoples and faiths in light of the taunting of the Native American elder at the Lincoln Memorial (anonymous).
- Prayer of peace in Columbia (anonymous).
- Prayers for healing Joan having knee replacement; prayers for all those affected by the government shutdown (Joyce).
- Prayer of Thanksgiving for the life of poet Mary Oliver – her poems were prayers (anonymous).
- Pray for Isaac Anderson Fraley. Prayers of support and love for Isaac as he faces a major court date. May the justice system truly be just (Bob Fraley and Deb Anderson).
- Pray for all the members of UCCSV for all your calls, texts, and visits whilst Adam was in hospital and over the last week as he continues to recover (Adam).
- 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

Have you ever wondered how to pray or if it even matters? Do you struggle with figuring out a way to pray that works for you or maybe you are simply unsure of what to say during prayer time? Everyone is always sending "Thoughts and Prayers" but what does that even mean?! To wrestle with these questions and more this Sunday we will begin a series on prayer including studying the way the scriptures say Jesus told the disciples to pray, often called The Lord's Prayer. This first week we will focus on how we start our prayers. The very first thing we do when we pray is address God. What do you call God? Our Father, Abba, Our God, Our Creator, or something else? What we call God as we enter into prayer is a theological choice and helps to define our relationship with God and how we see the world in general. Join us in worship at 10am as we start a conversation about prayer and learn some new ways to pray. Then stay after worship for our annual Congregational Meeting where we deliberate about and pray over our budget and decide how we want to spend our gifts and donations to do God's work in 2019.

One Anothering Group

One Anothering Group, a monthly spiritual and support gathering, will now be held on the forth Saturday of each month from 10 to 11:30 am. The location of the gathering will be rotated among those who attend on a voluntary basis. A signup genius link is provided below to signup for attending, hosting and bringing food to share. If the forth Saturday happens to be a Holiday weekend, the Group will meet on the third Saturday that month. If you would like to receive email signups for attending the group or have any questions about it, please contact Deb Anderson at bdmi.af@comcast.net. The link to the signup genius for One Anothering is as follows.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054BA8AD2-oneanothering>

Have You Been Furloughed or Know Someone Affected by the Government Shutdown?

If you are a member or friend of UCCSV and you are in need because of the government shutdown, we want to help! We have a Community Assistance Program that can assist you with groceries or bills. There are also multiple resources available through the county that can assist you or others you know struggling because they have been furloughed or are working for the government without pay. For more information on additional resources in Montgomery County and beyond, please visit: https://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/fed_emp_loyee-furlough.html

If you would like to discuss a matter related to the shutdown, either financial help or for assistance finding resources or a safe place to talk, please contact Pastor Holly at HollyRJackson@gmail.com.

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



Calendar

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
Chancel Choir Practice (7:30pm) – Jan. 31