



Spirit News

June 14, 2018

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

- Pray for Rev. Lucy Bready. Lucy had knee replacement surgery on 6/8 and is in a great deal of pain. Please pray for a complete healing for Lucy (Suzanne Schmidt).
- Pray for all those struggling with mental illness, addiction and those who are incarcerated. Let them know they are loved and not forgotten (anonymous).
- Pray for Sally Duncan who was hospitalized with an infection (anonymous).
- We thank you for the opening of hearts, of minds, of acceptance, of loving, of open doors, of hope for the LGBTQ+ community (anonymous).
- Ongoing prayers for employment opportunities for Dave and Shelly (Shelly Moore).
- Continued prayers for our son, Morris to find a job that will sustain his family and utilize his skills (Aaron and Sabine Cox).
- Continued prayers for Liberty Millendez, friend of the Domingo Family, who is undergoing chemo. May God's blessings of healing and strength be with her (Gina Domingo).
- Ongoing Prayer for my mother, Margaret P. Hall "for illness and God's will," sister's Patti and Brinda Hall – caretakers (Jim Hall)
- 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 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 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.

Prayers for Sally Duncan and Floyd Price

Please keep Sally Duncan and Floyd Price in your prayers. Sally was hospitalized last week with a lung infection and is now in rehab at the Wilson Health Center at Asbury improving a little more each day. Floyd was hospitalized yesterday at Holy Cross Germantown with pneumonia but was feeling much better by last night with proper care and medication. I know both of them would appreciate your prayers and well wishes.

This Sunday at UCCSV

This Sunday begins a new sermon series at UCC Seneca Valley as we look for hope through the various seasons of our life. This first week we'll start with hope for marriage and relationships and then next week we'll focus on hope for aging. This Sunday we'll also honor fathers on Father's Day and recognize our high school and college graduates. It may be summertime but we still come together to connect, to learn, to pray, and to serve. See you on Sunday!

Pastor Holly Away Next Week

Holly will be away on vacation visiting family in Delaware next week from Tuesday, June 19th - Friday, June 22nd. If you have a pastoral emergency please contact Suzanne Schmidt at 301-802-2862.

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
Song of Solomon 8:6-7 and Ephesians 4:25-32

Weekday Summer Office Hours

Pastor Holly's revised Office Hours for the Summer:

Monday - Call Ahead - I will usually be in the office for at least a few hours on Mondays but call ahead for specific times

Tuesday - Day Off (Sabbath)

Wednesday - 9:30am-3:30pm

Thursday - 9:30am-3:30pm

Friday - Working from home (Sermon writing day)

I am always available by appointment and by phone or text. Also these are not my only work hours as I often work at home at night and on the weekends (in addition to visiting people or attending meetings or appointments as needed), these are simply the hours when I am normally found in the church office. I am happy to come to you for lunch or coffee or to visit you at home at a time of your choosing.

Germantown Clergy Respond to Hate

Last week an email alerted you to hate incidents happening in our community and Holly's meeting with local clergy to craft a response. Here is an article on the letter Germantown clergy put together that is now circulating among Montgomery County clergy: <https://www.germantownpulse.net/single-post/2018/06/09/Montgomery-County-Clergy-Respond-to-Racist-KKK-Fliers-Found-in-County>

New Sermon Series - Hope for the Seasons of our Lives

We all go through various seasons of life: Youth, Young Adulthood, Marriage and Relationships, Parenthood, Mid-life, and Aging just to name a few. Not all of us will experience every season, but all of us will need to find hope in whatever season we are in. Through June and July we will journey together combining all our seasons and finding wisdom. And even if you are not going through a particular season right now, or don't intend to go through it, or have been through it already, it's important to remember we can always learn something about ourselves or about those we love regardless.

June 17: Marriage and Relationships

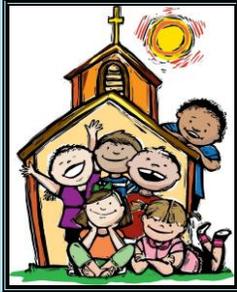
June 24: Aging

July 1: Young Adulthood

July 8: Parenthood

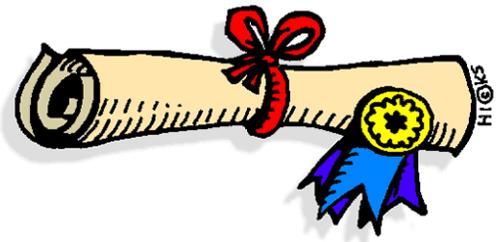
July 15: Mid-life

July 22: End of life



Calling all Sunday School Teachers and Helpers!

The Christian Education committee is searching for some wonderful teachers and youth helpers to sign up to teach for summer Sunday School dates. We are excited for this summer with our children and youth, and need your help to make it all happen! Please consider signing up for one Sunday or as many as you'd like on the bulletin board, or email Kristin Smith at k.smith.flute@gmail.com. An immediate need for a teacher and youth helper is open for Sunday, June 24, as well as dates that follow. Many thanks in advance!



RECOGNIZING OUR GRADUATES

Jako Domingo - Seneca Valley High School
Madelyn Anderson - Towson University w/
Bachelors in Forensic
Chemistry

We also celebrate smaller transitions and the transitions of friends and family:

Clarisse and Miranda Lin, and Daniel J. Hanes

Pass the Peas, Please

In June Seneca Valley is passing the peas, and the corn, and the green beans, and any other canned vegetable that you can donate to the Germantown Help food bank.

Lack of access to healthy, nourishing food undermines the health and wellbeing of children and families. Nearly 14% of children in Montgomery County are estimated to be food insecure, the highest rate in Maryland.

Please place your donations in the basket in the narthex. Thank you for supporting this important social action mission.

ONE ANOTHERING

The next One Anothering gathering will be held at Susan Percy's home from 10:00-11:30 on Saturday, June 30.

This is an open group and the purpose is to read the scripture for the following Sunday, much like the Havruta group. We have a light breakfast/brunch. If you can join us, please let me know.

After the regular meeting you are invited to stay and help pot some tomato plants (and whatever else is in excess in my garden) to offer on Sunday as a fundraiser for the next Women's Retreat. Bring containers, potting soil, a trowel, if you have them. Thanks!

Organic Produce

On Sunday, July 1, after our service, there will be produce available for a donation to support next year's Women's Retreat. If you have extra items in your garden, please bring to share. I'll also have zinnia seeds.

-Susan Pearcy

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group

Our July book is *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J.D. Vance. This book is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis - that of poor white Americans told through the life of the author's family. It is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country.

There are many copies in the library system in all formats which can be found in the biography section.

We will meet on Sunday, July 15 at 11:30am in the Narthex. Contact is Deborah Tomblyn.

Special Announcement

Due to summer schedules, we will only have 1 newsletter during July (on or about 7/12) and 2 newsletters during August (on or about 8/9 and 8/23). If you have any news to publish, please make sure to submit prior to those dates.

June Calendar of Events

Men's Breakfast (9:00am) – June 16
Trustees' Meeting (6:00pm) – June 18
Council Meeting (7:00pm) – June 18
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) –
June 24
PFLAG (2:30pm) – June 24