



Spirit News

June 28, 2018

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

- Prayer for Molly 31st surgery. Prayers of calm and healing immigrant children and parents. May they have peace until reunited (Joyce Miller).
- Thankful for the dedicated ministry that John B. and Stephen has provided the LGBTQ community for many months. May it continue to flourish and be a valuable resource for those that have needs for better understanding (anonymous).
- Continued prayers for healing of Shelly's knee. Prayers for employment for Dave Moore. Prayers for civility and reconciliation (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 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.

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
Joshua 1:3-9, Jeremiah 1:4-8 and Matthew 5:13-16

This Sunday at UCCSV

Where do we find hope for those teetering on the brink of adulthood or for those in their 20s and early 30s, for those who are Millennials and Generation Z, those who have never known a world without the internet, and those who have had their lives shaped by active shooter drills in school? Is faith still relevant to a generation growing up in the shadow of social media, smartphones, and climate change? As we continue our series on the seasons of life this Sunday we will explore young adulthood, the concerns of this life stage, their struggles with faith and the church, and young adults can find hope. Join us for worship at 10am. Kristin Smith will share her flute talents with us and we'll all gather around the table for communion. It may be summer but it's also been a week where news coverage can be overwhelming to our souls. So come and connect with God, be welcomed in community, and find bread for the journey.

July Worship Station - Put Down Your Burdens and Take the Hope You Need

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." - Matthew 11:28

You are invited to put down your burdens and take what you need in God's house. When you come to worship in July visit the prayer station in the back of the sanctuary. Write down your burden on a post it note and leave it in the basket of rocks. We don't need to carry these heavy things. We can leave them with God. Then take what you need. Tear off a paper and find a scripture verse related to what you need today. Take it with you to help you get through your week or month. Visit this station as often as you need throughout the month. Some burdens need to be named and put down many times before we really let them go and some scripture verses we may be familiar with but we need to put them in our heart and soul to give us strength and hope.

Share Your Story - Preaching Opportunities in July and August

Holly will be away on July 29th and August 19th. That means YOU have an opportunity to share your story with the congregation. If you would like to volunteer to preach on either of those Sundays please let Holly know and she can walk you through the process. If you would like to offer a Children's Message on either of those Sundays we'd love to have that as well.

ONE ANOTHERING

The next One Anothering gathering will be held at Susan Pearcy'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

Ledo Pizza Night July 10

The second Tuesday of each month will be UCC Seneca Valley night at Ledo Pizza on Wisteria Drive in Germantown. Ledo will give UCCSV a portion of its sales (between 10%-20% depending on the amount spent) from both eat in and carry out all day. You must present a flyer (available at church or at Ledos Tuesday evening starting at 5:30pm) to have your sale counted towards our total. Join us for an inexpensive, kid-friendly, evening out and help us raise some funds for UCCSV!

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.



In July we will be collecting canned pasta for Western Upper Montgomery County (WUMCO) Help. More information about WUMCO is at www.wumcohelp.org.

Parties, Parties, Parties

WHAT: Join other members and friends of UCCSV at a party. A Bingo Party, A Pool Party, A Christmas in July Party, A Mid-Winter Blues Party. You name it!

WHY: The purpose of the parties is to promote small group fellowship and raise funds for special items on the church's wish list.

WHO: These events will be organized by Carol Brandt, Joyce Miller, and Jeanne Springmann.

HOW: Throughout the summer, we will be recruiting hosts for different parties throughout the year. The host can set the theme, the date, and the number of guests to invite. Hosts may open their homes, schedule the Gathering Room, or suggest another venue for a specific date. The hosts will provide refreshments and perhaps token prizes. We are looking for approximately 8-10 hosts. If you would like to host a party, please contact Carol, Joyce, or Jeanne.

The Soul of Aging

Suzanne Schmidt will be facilitating Part 1 of The Soul of Aging beginning this fall. These sessions are for those who want to explore, understand, and face the truths of growing older. Themes include beliefs about aging, forgiveness, our understanding of God, and reflecting on our own death. The Soul of Aging sessions use readings, poetry, thought-provoking questions, and working with images to assist each participant in embracing his or her own aging.

The 2 ½ hour sessions will take place on Saturdays at the Schmidt Davis Home in Germantown from September 15- October 20. (The time slot is to be determined based on participant's availability.) There will be 8-10 participants in this group. Other than a materials fee of \$11, there will be no cost for the initial offering. If there is interest among the participants, the remaining five sessions may be offered.

See email attachment. Registration forms are due by July 14.

Adopt-A-Road



Montgomery County's Adopt A Road (AAR) program encourages residents and businesses in the County to participate in a community activity by keeping our roadsides litter free.

Currently there are more than 2,500 volunteers who have adopted over 450 road segments and cleaning over 1100 miles of road in an effort to Keep Montgomery County Beautiful. You can be a part of this program too!

Your participation will help reduce trash and litter along County roads and maintain a clean and attractive environment. Ultimately it helps protect the Chesapeake Bay. Litter that is washed into storm drains, travels to nearby

creeks, streams, major rivers, and eventually can reach the Bay.

Join UCCSV friends and members as we make a part of Middlebrook Road beautiful.

When: Saturday, July 14
Where: Meet at Seneca Valley High School
Time: 9:00am

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of an Usher for July 22. If you are available, please consider signing up this Sunday on the bulletin board outside the church office. We have our August signup sheets available as well. Many thanks for all you do!



Reminder

There will be no newsletter next week

Calendar

Organic Produce (11:15am) – Today, July 1
Deacon's Meeting (7:00 pm) – July 2
Pizza Night at Ledo's – July 10
Adopt-A-Road – July 14
Ice Cream Sunday Social (11:15am) – July 15
Pulp Pilgrim's Book Group (11:30am) – July 15
Trustees' Meeting (6:00pm) – July 16
Council Meeting (7:00pm) – July 16
Men's Breakfast (9:00am) – July 21
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) – July 22
PFLAG (2:30pm) – July 22