



Spirit News

June 2, 2021

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

Prayer Requests

- Laura and Beth: Prayers for our members as they consider where they wish to serve in the ministry of our church.
- Dan (he, him): Prayers of healing for Betsy who had eye surgery and is facing a long recovery after a terrible fall.
- Tiffany Turner: Prayers for Ryan as he is going on his new medicine.
- Lissa Bales (she/her): Prayers for Marty as he deals with health issues.
- John B (he/him/his): Pray that my daughter Bethany finds much needed full time employment.
- Deacon Asher (she/her/hers): Please pray for Sky and healing for her broken foot, my uncle whose cancer returned, Mandy who is transitioning off chemo, Kristy who has brain tumors, and Deb, Madelyn, and Issac.
- John B (he/him/his): Pray for Bob L. who is dealing with back pain issues.
- Bryan Young: Prayers for Camila as she struggles during her postpartum stage.
- Regina Domingo: Prayer of thanksgiving for God's faithfulness to me for 55 years.
- Regina Domingo: Prayer for Jako who will be taking his MCAT on June 4.
- PTJ (he/him): for Lori, looking for work, and for deRaismes, mourning the death of her mother.

Sarah (Sally) Duncan

On Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., there will be a celebration of the life of Sarah (Sally) Duncan. She has touched many lives in special ways and we are finally able to gather together in her honor. The service and will be held at

Evangelical Reformed Church UCC, 15 W. Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701

You can also stream the service at:
<https://boxcast.tv/view/memorial-service-740124>.

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's Children's Sunday at UCCSV and we are celebrating our children and youth by looking back on this past year and looking ahead to tomorrow. With readings and art and music the children and youth of UCCSV are sharing what their lives have been like this past year and what they are looking forward to as life begins to find a new rhythm. Please join us for this special Sunday worship experience and be sure to plan to stay after worship for our Congregational Meeting. As it is a communion Sunday, please have bread or a cracker and juice or wine with you as you sit down to worship.

The Zoom room opens at 9:30am and worship begins at 10am. Please bring a candle (electric or flame) with you to worship. This worship service will be live streamed to our Facebook page and recorded for posting on our website.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84470757726?pwd=VUhkWDZacGZBUFBwYWISU3QxN3dlUT09>

Meeting ID: 844 7075 7726
Passcode: 20874
Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
Meeting ID: 844 7075 7726
Passcode: 20874

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87976242414?pwd=YnY3VnBWLzFEZTU0OVlaNm5FWmd6QT09>

Help Us Plan Worship!

Do you have ideas about worship? Would you like to be a part of helping plan our summer worship experiences? This Thursday, June 3rd at 7pm we'll be meeting together on Zoom to discuss and plan for worship this summer. In particular we'll brainstorm about outdoor Evening Vespers in June, July, and August. We'll also discuss the summer worship series, Faces of our Faith. And finally, we'll begin to consider what changes might be needed for a UCCSV hybrid (online and in person) worship on Sunday mornings. If you would like to be a part of this process, give your input and help with implementation, we need you! Join us as we invite God to partner with us to make meaningful worship for all.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87976242414?pwd=YnY3VnBWLzFEZTU0OVlaNm5FWmd6QT09>

A Card Ministry for UCCSV



Calling all creative types, and the rest of you. Please help us make cards for the Card Ministry on June 13, 1:30-3:30. We will be meeting in the Gathering

Room at the church. Susan Pearcy will show us a fingerprint design technique. Use that or design your own card. We will have plenty of supplies but feel free to bring your own craft materials too. It is an exciting new ministry for our church. Contact Jeanne Springmann if you have questions.

Do You Have a Graduate in Your Family?

We're looking to celebrate the graduates in our congregation and in our extended families. If you know of someone who is graduating (or has already graduated) this Spring please let us know their names, their connection to you if they are not a regular part of our congregation, and what they are graduating from. In addition if they are going on to more schooling or have definite plans upon graduation that we can celebrate please share that with us as well. We will pray for them in worship on June 6th and June 13th depending on when we get the information and we may do some in person celebrating of our congregation's graduates as well. More on that to come. Please email graduate information to HollyRJackson@gmail.com.

Congregational Check In/Happy Hour - Fridays at 7 PM

Connecting nowadays can be difficult. Do you sometimes just want to see your fellow UCCSV members and friends for a quick chat? Your wish is granted! There will be a Congregational Check In/Happy Hour every Friday at 7 PM. It will only run for 45 minutes and is a good way to say "hi" and catch up with others. Different Deacons will be hosting each Friday and it is open to all. It will be very casual with no obligations... stop by when you feel the need and stay as long or short as you want. Take care and we will see you when we see you.

-John (Chair of Deacons)

UCC Seneca Valley is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Congregational Check In/Happy Hour

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89655025431?pwd=V1k0bEQ4VTBGODJ3L2U1WHBFbzBnZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 5502 5431

Passcode: peeps

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 896 5502 5431

Passcode: 565927

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89655025431?pwd=V1k0bEQ4VTBGODJ3L2U1WHBFbzBnZz09>

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, June 6th After Worship

On Sunday, June 6th after worship we will be having our bi-annual Congregational Meeting on Zoom. At this meeting we will elect and install a new slate of church leaders (more on that to come), review our church's journey these last months including a brief financial update, and hear a presentation on our recent church survey responses and how they impact our future including what that means for hybrid worship that includes both online and in-person worship on Sunday mornings. Please plan to join us for this very important meeting. If you have any questions please contact Holly at HollyRJackson@gmail.com.

Reports in Preparation of Congregational Meeting on Sunday

In order to prepare for our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, the Church Council has prepared a series of reports for each church committee and financial reports for 2021. You can access these documents at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PJsxLTG3vDpmhmrmwsZFqgDLobKpX4Y?usp=sharing>. If you would like these documents sent directly to

you please email Holly at HollyRJackson@gmail.com. However, be aware there are several documents involved so please try to access them through the link first if at all possible. We will also be adding the agenda for Sunday's meeting as well as last meeting's minutes to this folder as we go through this week.

Serving at UCCSV for 2021-22

As part of our June 6th congregational meeting we will be voting on and installing new leadership for our congregation. Most of our leadership is staying on both because we have had an abbreviated leadership year and because we're trying to provide a sense of stability to the congregation as we continue through this difficult time. However, there are open positions and all our committees would gladly welcome anyone who wished to serve the ministries of our church and share your gifts with us.

In particular we are looking for a Treasurer to take over for Russell Shelly (who has worked tirelessly in this position for many years and deserves a break). Russell will happily train a willing volunteer. We also will need a new Chair for our Fellowship Committee and we continue to need a Chair of the Christian Education Committee (a position that's been vacant for two years now). Below are also descriptions of some of our other Boards and Committees for you to determine whether they might be a good fit for your gifts. Please let us know if you are willing to serve. Although being in church leadership is work, we also laugh together, get to know one another, lead the church through all manner of situations, and continue the mission of our congregation. Your voice and presence is needed to help this church become all God wants it to be and helps us to be a light to our community.

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee helps organize and carry out the fall stewardship campaign every year. We come up with themes and ideas, organize reaching out to church members, coordinate with worship during the campaign, and help celebrate Consecration Sunday as we complete a successful pledge campaign. We help people understand why and how their time, talent, and money makes a difference at UCCSV and enable them to continue giving as they are called.

Christian Education Committee

The Christian Education Committee plans for the spiritual formation of all ages at UCCSV. From Sunday School to Youth Group to Adult Education and more, we seek to help the congregation learn about God and our faith and connect with each other. Our Mission statement: UCCSV is a teaching church, providing an environment in which persons of all ages grow in faith, transformed to live and teach as disciples of Jesus the Christ. We value faith development and Christian education as a life-long transformational process. Come join us and help grow our ministry to families, youth and adults as we learn together.

Social Action Board

This committee focuses on both loving mercy (projects which involve serving others such as Fox Chapel Elementary School partnership and Germantown Help) and doing justice (projects such as Getting Out the Vote and education/actions related to anti-racism). We meet once a month (currently by zoom) and in between there is some assignments (writing newsletter articles, crafting Mission Moments messages). We currently have nine members on our board ranging from 15 to 78 years old. If you feel called to living out Micah 6:8 (loving mercy and doing justice), please contact Dan

Davis or Suzanne Schmidt who serve as co-chairs of this board.

Property Ops

Serving the Property Operations Committee over the last 10 years or so has been my primary area of expertise. It is rather astounding all that Property Operations has accomplished over the decades, and we are sure to be making some changes into our future - especially Post Pandemic - as we embrace a full return to worship in our building.

This committee manages a myriad of important tasks and obligations. We manage all of the utilities and building service contracts, and we also manage a fruitful and collegial relationship with the Seventh-day Adventist Church that rents our building every Saturday, along with others that rent our space for community events. Grubby Sundays are a time when our congregations unite to deep clean all areas, inside and outside.

As we prepare to re-enter our church building, the church council is expecting to fully upgrade our technology in the sanctuary to create a more vibrant worship atmosphere both in-house and online. There will be many tasks to consider and manage and we can use all the help we can get!

Please consider joining the Property Operations committee. Reestablishing human connections with all of you and with new members of our community is a very exciting time. If you want to learn more about Prop Ops at UCCSV, please reach out to me directly and I'll be happy talk with you.
- Laura Lineberger, Chair

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee is recruiting additional team players to participate in planning and executing various "fellowshipping" activities that help members and friends connect both in-

person and online. Occasional activities like virtual Trivia Nights, Farkle Games and pet parade, as well as in person events like Fire Pit Fridays, Pop-up Pride, Chili Cook-off and multi-committee drive-by gatherings are examples of the kinds of things this committee facilitates. Also, as we move in the direction of returning to our church building and developing a model of in-person and online worship, there will be a need for in-person and online fellowship following Sunday morning services. Whether you will be worshipping with us only online or plan to participate both online and in person, you are invited to join the Fellowship team. Your heart, hands and ideas are welcome here. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Beth at balauiat@aol.com.

Upcoming Worship at UCCSV

June 6th - Children and Youth Sunday (and Congregational Meeting)

June 13 - Pride Sunday and Outdoor Vespers at 5:30pm

June 20 - Rev. Suzanne Adele Schmidt preaching

June 27 - Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath preaching



June and July

(Is your birthday missing? Send us an email (uccsv@verizon.net) with your birth month and date and we will be glad to add you to our list).

Colby Harmon	6/1
Stephen Henry	6/1
Laura Lineberger	6/1
Wayne Richards	6/6
John Teigiser	6/8
Milan Yu	6/12
Ronna Domingo	6/13
Sally Duncan	6/13
Pam Van Prooyen	6/20
Adam DeBaugh	6/23
Chloe Jackson	6/23
Russell Shelley	6/23
Owen Sotak	6/23
Terri Molaski	7/3
Deb Anderson	7/9
Laura Yeany	7/9
Joan Bomar	7/10
Patrick Jackson	7/10
Carol Brandt	7/13
John Bartkowiak	7/14
Dee Dee Molaski	7/14
Tim Fuss	7/17
George Benskin V	7/19
Jim Hall	7/19
Shelly Moore	7/20
Colin Pelkey	7/22
Eli Sotak	7/24
Rod Dunlap	7/28
Deborah Barnes	7/30
Helen Walty	7/30