



Spirit News

June 9, 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

- Joyce (she/her/s): Prayers for the blessings of our youth.
- Asher: Prayers for my uncle Bob who is undergoing chemo, Mandy who is starting radiation, and Deb and Steven as they deal with his diagnosis.
- Lissa Bales (she/her): Prayers for Marty as he deals with health issues.
- Dan and Suzanne: Prayers for our daughter Amy that a clear diagnosis.
- Heather: Prayers for Ellie as she moves to a new home and will start a new school while still adjusting from a divorce and many changes.

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's Pride Sunday and we're celebrating the LGBTQ+ community and lifting them up as beloved of God, made in God's image. Be sure to wear bright colors or maybe even something rainbow themed as we join together to celebrate. We are all fearfully and wonderfully made by God! As part of our worship we'll consider the ways in which a conservative backlash has led to the targeting of transgender children and youth and why that is an affront to God. Please join us for this special celebration in the life of our Open and Affirming church.

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=V>

[UhkWDZacGZBUFBwYWISU3QxN3dlUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84470757726?pwd=V)

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/84470757726?pwd=V>

Pastor Holly on Vacation June 14th-June 27th

Holly will be on vacation for two weeks, including Sundays from June 14th -June 27th. She will not be checking email while she is away. If you have a pastoral concern you can contact your Deacon or John Barkowiak, Chair of Deacons if you don't know who your Deacon is. If you need to speak to a clergy person Rev. Bonnie Scott of Trinity UMC is covering for Holly while she's away. You can call her at 301-540-4300 or email her at revbonnie@trinity-germantown.org.

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 Percy 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.

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/u/kbPBtQKFgY>

Adopt-A-Road

Join UCCSV members and friends this Saturday in working to keep a stretch of Middlebrook Road beautiful.

What to Expect: We will break into small groups, walk along sidewalks, and pick up trash and recyclables for approximately 1 hour.

What to Bring: Bring your own equipment for personal use if you prefer to minimize virus transmission. We will provide trash grabbers, gloves, reflective vests, and trash/recycling bags.

When: 9:00 AM; Second Saturdays, May through October.

Where to Meet: Meet in the parking area for 12850 Middlebrook Road near our Adopt-A-Road highway sign, across from the Bank of America. *** This is a new location. *** You can also enter the parking area from Crystal Rock Road next to Seneca Valley High School.

Contact: Jenny at utzhome@gmail.com if you are interested in participating or if you have questions (including concerns about questionable weather).

In Person Outdoor Evening Vespers This Sunday June 13th 5:30pm

Join us for in person worship outside on the church grounds on Sunday, June 13th at 5:30pm. We will have a Pride theme to worship but this will not be the same service as our Sunday morning Zoom worship. All are welcome. If you are able please bring a chair to sit on. We will have chairs for those who can't bring them for whatever reason. Please also bring bread or a cracker and wine or juice for communion.

Celebrating our Graduates

We want to celebrate three graduates in our congregation this year. Chloe Jackson graduated from high school at Friends Meeting School and is off to college in the fall at Catholic University in Washington DC to study Musical Theater. Joseph Johnson graduated from the University of Maryland and has a new job in McClean, Virginia. Ryan Utz also graduated from the University of Maryland and is heading to Carnegie Mellon University to study in their Mechanical Engineering Doctoral Program. Congratulations to all these graduates! We will lift them up in prayer in worship this Sunday. We are so proud of them and wish them every blessing as they continue on their paths.

We also want to lift up Lissa Bales' great-nephew, Grayson Ross. He graduated summa cum laude from Martinsburg (WV) High School. He will be attending Oberlin College (OH) in the fall. Helen Hanes asked us to remember and celebrate her sister's grandson, Trevor Cook, who graduated from Colorado College with a Geology degree. Congratulations to all of these graduates!

If you have a graduate we haven't mentioned please let us know and we will lift them up in prayer this coming Sunday.

Hybrid Worship Presentation

If you missed the presentation on hybrid worship and why it matters at this past Sunday's congregational meeting (complete with information from our congregational survey this past spring) please visit https://www.uccsenecavalley.org/why_hybrid_worship. In this presentation Holly will explain why the church will be moving towards hybrid worship (in person and online) as we seek to return to our sanctuary and how that will impact worship and the church overall.

Juneteenth Celebration

Montgomery County's 24th Juneteenth Celebration will be held from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, June 19, at the BlackRock Center for the Arts located at 12901 Town Commons Drive in Germantown.

The event will feature traditional events like the award recognition ceremony and Juneteenth inspired food. This year's theme "Freedom at the Rock . . . Acknowledge, Educate, Celebrate" traces the African American struggle for freedom through education, art, dance, music and honoring our elders. New this year, the festivities will include educational activities, a historical journey of African American Music and artistic entertainment and food trucks—all designed for the whole family. Activities will take place inside and on the lawn of the arts center. For more information, please click the link below.

<https://montgomerycomd.blogspot.com/2021/06/24th-juneteenth-celebration-will.html>

Upcoming Worship at UCCSV

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

June 20 - Rev. Suzanne Adele Schmidt preaching

June 27 - Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath preaching

July 4 – Faces of our Faith: The Daughters of Zelophehad – Standing up for Justice Together

July 11-Faces of our Faith: Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego – Courage in the Face of Fear

July 18 – Faces of our Faith: Queen Vashti – Standing Up for Ourselves

July 25 – Faces of our Faith: Deborah – Creating Space for God's Wisdom

June and July Birthdays

(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