



Spirit News

March 10, 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
Website: UCCSenecaValley.org

Prayer Requests

- Debby Gensch: Praying for tolerance and forgiveness. Prayers for those suffering from mental illness.
- Russell Shelley: Stop Asian Hate.
- John B (he/him/his): May we at UCCSV be a place and a people who embrace those with illnesses that can be seen with our eyes and those that cannot be seen with our eyes.
- Bethany Fuss (she/her): Prayers for Jen's friend Ginny who had a mastectomy this week, that she will recover and feel surrounded by support during the time of isolation.
- Bethany Fuss (she/her): Special thanks for Madelyn, celebrating her birthday.
- Bryan and Camila: prayers for peace and patience and wisdom with baby Justin.

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's the Fourth Sunday in Lent and we're continuing with our series Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Healing and Recovery with a focus on intellectual health and creativity. Prolonged times of difficulty can impede our ability to stay creative. The picture of our lives is dulled and hope for a brighter future can fade. We need a touch of inspiration to awaken us from our sleep, as we hear in one of this week's healing stories. We also awaken to our agency to seek out the Divine Healer, reaching out to touch the power we know can restore our intellect and imagination. We emerge ready to re-engage with the world, seeking and seeing solutions, creating different pictures of life renewed just as a mosaic artist creates beauty from broken pieces of glass. Pastor Holly will preach and Aaron and Sabine Cox will tell their own story about creativity and healing.

If you have your Lent To Go Bag please bring it with you and also a candle, flame or electric. If not, do not fear. All will be able to participate. The Zoom Room opens at 9:30am and worship starts at 10am and will also be livestreamed 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 D.C)

Meeting ID: 844 7075 7726

Passcode: 20874

Find your local number:

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

Deacons - We've Got You Covered

As most of you know, Camila and Bryan Young were recently blessed with the birth of their son, Justin! Because of this joyous event, Camila will be on "maternity leave" for a while. In Camila's absence, former fantastic Deacon Joyce Miller has agreed to "take care of" those on Camila's Deacon Care List. The Deacon Board is so grateful to Joyce for stepping up and know that you all are in very good hands! So, if you have any questions, needs, things that need to be passed on to Pastor Holly, etc., please contact Joyce. Also, please feel free to let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Lenten Worship Series - Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Healing and Recovery

Each of us is created a precious and holy vessel of embodied love. We have been through a harrowing time since last Lent that has shattered our sense of wholeness— body, mind, and spirit— like a glass vessel fractured into pieces. In this Lenten “season of recovery” for our physical, communal, mental, intellectual, and environmental health, we will explore the healing narratives of Jesus that tell of divine solidarity with human suffering and remind us that we can begin a journey toward making something beautiful from that which is seemingly broken. Beach glass offers us a multifaceted symbol of this transformative process. In your Lent to Go Bags there will be sea glass for you to use meditatively throughout this series. Each week we will focus on a different kind of health and healing as we work each week to recover and find a way forward.

March 14: Intellectual Health and Creativity
March 21: Environmental Health
March 28 (Palm Sunday): Integrated Health

Lenten Soupers Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Join us for dinner and conversation tonight at our Lenten Souper meeting. We start at 6:30pm. You are welcome to bring your dinner or just bring yourself as we chat over our shared virtual table. Then at 7pm we will watch a TED talk together and discuss its implications for our lives and our ministry. Each talk in this series will focus on healing and what that means to us as individuals and as a community.

Tonight's TED talk is about healing relationships. In a year where many of us have struggled with relationships with friends and family, is healing possible? Is it possible to share your truth and seek them in others? What happens if a relationship is not healable?

https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_lesser_say_your_truths_and_seek_them_in_others/transcript

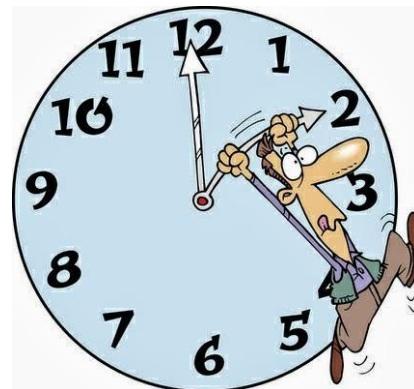
The Zoom link for tonight's meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84186675185?pwd=QnRqdGNEVjRsaUNsditWcEVObkNGQT09>

Next week we will focus on issues of race with a TED talk entitled: How Racism Makes Us Sick. Finally, we will end our series considering what it means to reenter "normal" life after a traumatic event with a TED talk entitled: What almost dying taught me about living.

Virtual Farkle Game Nights

Farkle fun will continue in March, so mark your calendars. We will play tonight, Wednesday, March 10 and Tuesday, March 23 from 7-8ish. If you would like to learn how to play Farkle, contact Beth at balauriat@aol.com



**Don't forget
to Spring
Forward
this
Weekend!**

One Great Hour of Sharing



The United Church of Christ as a whole values donating money towards the wellbeing of vulnerable populations worldwide. Every year, churches across the nation celebrate our connection by contributing to One Great Hour of Sharing. This special offering provides support for education, health, refugee, agriculture, and emergency relief efforts both in the United States and across the world. If we were in person, we would collect spare change during Lent to donate to this special offering. This year, March 14 is the offering date for One Great Hour of Sharing. During this difficult time, supporting one another is one of the most powerful things. If you are able, please consider donating to this initiative to support communities beyond ours. For more information, visit <https://www.ucc.org/oghs/> or find them on Facebook at One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC). Online donations on the UCCSV website are easy. Just visit <https://www.uccsenecavalley.org/donate> and put the amount of your donation next to the "One Great Hour of Sharing" line.

Checks may be mailed to UCCSV, PO Box 803, Germantown, MD 20875.

We Need Your Help!

We have no Greeters between 3/21 and 5/30. We would appreciate it if you would consider signing up at the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a4a722a02-uccsv>

UCCSV to host "Bearing Witness" a Black Lives Matter Tribute and Community Art Share

On Sunday May 2nd, UCCSV will host an outdoor community art share about bearing witness to the beauty and struggle of black lives. With a focus on justice and affirming that black lives matter, we will encourage community members to share their art to all. This will be an outdoor event (with social distancing and masks required). But we hope to have this be a community event that all can participate in, either as artists or as those who seek to experience and bear witness to the art. For more information please see the attachment.

Happy Birthday



Quinn Jackson	3/2
Michelle Singletary	3/4
Tom Frazier	3/5
Madelyn Anderson	3/7
Bethany Fuss	3/9
Paula-Marie Read	3/9
Jean Bertelmann	3/10
Tucker Singletary	3/25
Jako Domingo	3/29