



Spirit News

March 17, 2021

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

- Laura and Beth: Prayer for our friend Robin - give her strength to make it through tomorrow as she helps her parents transition into assisted living. It has been a very hard time for her.
- Debby Gensch: Praying I can see my Mom for a window visit in NY, and safe travels as I travel back and forth to NY and back home to DE.
- Deacon Asher (she, her, hers): Please pray for my Mom who fell, my friend's dad recovering from leg surgery, and my friend who is going through chemo.
- Luz Grajale: Please prayers for Gabrielle, a friend's daughter who is 14 years old and wants to die.
- John B (he/him/his): Pray for me and the friends and family of my dear friend Kathleen. I found out that she passed away at the age of 76 back on January 6th.
- PTJ (he/him): a prayer of thanksgiving for Rose's new grandson Nicholas, born this morning!
- Dan and Suzanne: Continue to bless Camila, Bryan, and Camila's mother as they care for Justin.

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's the Fifth Sunday in Lent and we continue with our series Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Healing and Recovery with a focus on environmental health looking at both how we can be healed by nature and also how we need to protect and heal the planet that is our home. We live in increasing chaos of a beleaguered environment and the hoarding of resources. We want to be "saved" by something or someone else, but we discover this week that we are in the boat with the One who shows us our power to

turn it around, to calm the storm. We protect the jewel that is our home, making something beautiful from scars of the past finding healing for ourselves even as we seek justice and health for the world around us. Amie Barker will give her testimony and we will once again meditate with our beach glass.

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>

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 21: Environmental Health

March 28 (Palm Sunday): Integrated Health

love *do* JUSTICE
MERCY AND
walk HUMBLLY
WITH YOUR GOD.
MICAH 6:8

Lent: 40 Days to Love Mercy

At the beginning of Lent, the Social Action Board announced that there would be three opportunities to demonstrate the Micah 6:8 directive to “love mercy.”

The first opportunity focused on food insufficiency on the local level and the second at the national and international level through UCC’s annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

The third opportunity is assisting Germantown Help during their Easter outreach. UCCSV is teaming up with two other faith communities in Montgomery County, Journey's Crossing Church (JCC) and Hindu American Community Services, Inc. Most of those receiving groceries will pick

them up at JCC’s parking lot. Of the 300 grocery sets, 50 will be set aside for UCCSV to deliver to folks with limited mobility/transportation who cannot come to JCC themselves.

We need 8-10 UCCSV drivers to show up at JCC (corner of Century Blvd. and Cloverleaf Center Dr.) at 9 a.m. on Saturday April 3rd and deliver the groceries immediately after pickup. Noel Lin will receive a list of the 50 recipients in advance so that we can contact them to let them know to expect delivery. **If you would like to help with the delivery, please email Noel Lin noellin50@gmail.com by March 29.**

If you would like to contribute toward gift cards for Easter food, you may do so through the church website (look for the Germantown Help option) or by sending a check to the church P.O. box.

Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast via Zoom this Saturday 3/20 at 9 a.m.: celebrate the first day of spring with your favorite spring chickens. Please contact Noel (noellin50@gmail.com) for login info.

Holy Week Worship

March 28 - Palm Sunday, Worship at 10am
April 1 - Maundy Thursday, Worship at 7pm
April 2 - Good Friday, Worship at 7pm
April 4 - Easter Sunday, Worship at 10am



Lenten Soupers Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Join us for dinner and conversation tonight at our Lenten Souper meeting. You are invited to wear green for St. Patrick's Day! 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 how racism makes us sick. Suzanne Schmidt will lead us in our discussion afterwards and incorporate some of what she is learning through a group considering how racism affects our bodies.

https://www.ted.com/talks/david_r_williams_how_racism_makes_us_sick

The Zoom link for tonight's meeting:

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

Next week's meeting will be our last of this series and we'll consider 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 Tuesday, March 23 from 7-8ish. If you would like to learn how to play Farkle, contact Beth at balauriat@aol.com

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