



Spirit News

March 1, 2018

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

- Pray for safe travels for those attending Women's Retreat (anonymous).
- Pray for strength for Debbie Simmons who is preparing for breast cancer surgery (Terri).
- Pray for Burke Mealy suffering with brain cancer and effects of radiation treatment (Deb Anderson).
- Pray for Bunny who fell – leg in cast. Castro family waiting for heart transplant for granddaughter (Joyce).
- Pray for the healing of a broken bone on right foot (anonymous).
- Pray for the people of Syria that are being bombed by their government. May the killing of children, women & men stop so they might live without fear. Bring them peace (anonymous).
- Prayers for my brother Lucy as he completes his 40th radiation treatment. Prayers also for my friend Les Moore as he recovers from heart surgery (Xzana).
- Ongoing Prayer for Fred Van Orman in hospice care. Widom and comfort, ease Dad's suffering (Bill and Ruel).
- 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 for Laurene Karimi who is battling stage 3 breast cancer with so much courage (Terri Molaski).
- Ongoing prayer for Phyllis Anderson and family. Phyllis is declining with dementia. Surround her and her daughters who are caregiving. Please grant them patience and peace (Deb Anderson).
- Ongoing Prayer for Patti and Gary Dennison who are suffering through severe illness and very difficult times (Andrea Dennison).
- Ongoing Prayer for Michelle Cohen – Has multiple myeloma (Terri Molaski).

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 Psalm 19 and Proverbs 1:20-23

This Sunday at UCCSV

The Wisdom tradition within Christianity invites us to love knowledge, especially the self-knowledge that comes from examining ourselves in relationship to the liberating Word of God. *Lectio divina* (“divine reading”) is an ancient tradition of mixing the reading of scripture with prayer and meditation. Rather than an analytical approach to the words of scripture, it is a way for the words to simply be present and live in us. What will we hear when we let go of what it all is “supposed to” mean and simply let it reside within us? Patrick Jackson will preach. The choir will sing an old favorite. Continue to listen and immerse yourself deeper in Lent by joining us for worship at 10am. As Pastor Holly and several of UCCSV's women are on the Women's Retreat this weekend we will be moving our monthly Communion celebration to next Sunday, March 11th.

World Wise Web - Listening for Wisdom: Lenten Soup-ers

Join us next Wednesday at 6:30pm for a simple soup supper and stay for a chance to practicing listening for wisdom. Together we will watch a short TED talk by Journalist Ronnie Polaneczky who says that when an angry reader began cursing her out over the phone, she had an epiphany: Magic happens when we set aside our judgments and just listen, even when we are certain that person is wrong and we are right. The experience set her on a quest to understand the true meaning of what she calls “deliberate listening.” When deep listening becomes a deliberate practice, like a muscle to be exercised, we open new creative spaces in our lives for connecting with others and fully expressing ourselves. As we continue on our Lenten journey of listening, how can we develop ways of listening that feed us and help us to be heard? Join us for an evening of connection and learning! If you want to watch

the video ahead of time you can find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A343tIP5iUA>

Devotional Group

Join the Wednesday Devotion Group each Wednesday during Lent for social time, devotion and prayer from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., bring a brown bag lunch, drink provided.

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, March 10th
Where: Meet at Seneca Valley High School
Time: 9:00am



Easter Flowers

Orders are now being taken for Easter flowers. If you would like to dedicate in memory of a loved one or to honor someone special, feel free to print out the order form attached to this email and bring with you this Sunday. Order forms can be placed in the offering plate.

OGHS

Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more. In 2017, the OGHS offering was over \$2 million. An additional \$3 million was given to the United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries in support of specific disaster relief efforts.

What is One Great Hour of Sharing®?

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster

preparedness and response.

Who participates in One Great Hour of Sharing?

Several Christian denominations - *American Baptist Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Church of the Brethren, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the United Church of Christ, and Church World Service* work together to develop common promotional materials thereby sharing ideas, costs, and a commitment to faithful service. Each denomination receives and manages its respective OGHS offering.

How is the United Church of Christ's offering used?

62 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for missionaries. Currently there are 2 OGHS supported missionaries and 1 Global Mission Intern working in disaster relief, health care, education, sustainable agricultural development, and refugee support. The offering also funds disaster preparedness and response, and disaster related volunteer initiatives in the U.S.



We will take this special offering Sunday, March 11th.



Calendar of Events

CE Committee Meeting (11:30am) – March 4
Confirmation Class (11:30am) – March 4
Deacons Meeting (7pm) – March 5
Lent Devotional (12:30pm) – March 7
Lenton Soupers (6:30pm) – March 7
Adopt-A-Road (9:00am) – March 10
Pizza Night at Ledo's – March 13
Lent Devotional (12:30pm) – March 14
Lenton Soupers (6:30pm) – March 14
Men's Breakfast (9am) – March 17
Confirmation Class (11:30am) – March 18
Fellowship Meeting (11:30am) – March 18
Trustees Meeting (6:00pm) – March 19
Church Council Meeting (7pm) – March 19
Lent Devotional (12:30pm) – March 21
Lenten Soup-ers (6:30pm) – March 21
Social Action Com. Mtg. (11:30am) - March 25
PFLAG (2:30pm) – March 25
Lord's Table at St. Martins (1:00pm) – March 27
Maundy Thursday Service (6:30pm) – March 29
Good Friday Service (7:30pm) – March 30