



# Spirit News

March 7, 2019

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

- Prayers for Steven of peace and calm after death of his partner of 47 years; prayers for Joan for continued healing after knee operation; prayer for Danica Roem. May she feel supported and loved (Joyce).
- Pray for Tech and Show week (Chloe).
- Prayers go out to the people of the United Methodist Church after their vote this week. Heal their rifts, their hurts, feelings of abandonment. Bring them openness, healing and reconciliation (anonymous).
- Pray that I get a job soon (Deborah Barnes).
- Ongoing prayer for David Barker, Amie's Dad. God be with David as he goes for cardioversion. Pray for a positive outcome and increased quality of life. Pray for safe travel for him and Marcia (Marsha), Amie's Mom, as the hospital is a long drive from their home. Pray they both find courage and strength in this chapter of their lives (anonymous).
- Ongoing prayer that we might be satisfied with enough and prayers for employment opportunities for David (Shelly Moore).
- Continued prayers for my Aunt following surgery – she is improving (Renee Morales).
- Continued prayer for Wayne Tipping as he deals with heart issues (Paula-Marie Read).
- Ongoing Prayer for Stephen to find a job closer to home to shorten his long daily commute (John Bartkowiak).

*Ongoing Prayer Requests: Please notify Nita at [uccsv@verizon.net](mailto: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.*

## This Sunday at UCCSV

Pay attention because God is on the move! It's the start of Lent here at UCCSV and over the course of the next several weeks we will be learning how to look for God's movement in the scriptures and in our lives and the world around us. And as God moves, we do too changed by God's presence in our lives. This first week of Lent we will hear about God moving in the desert. Jesus' temptation in the wilderness shows us that God has moved fully into human flesh and can identify with our every experience. All of us in our lives will have a season where we are stuck in the desert or find ourselves struggling in the wilderness. There will be times when we feel alone or wonder why we are trudging through some of the hardest parts of our lives. The good news is that God knows this experience intimately and can walk with us as we go. Please join us for worship at 10am. Stu Yeany will offer some special music. Pastor Holly will preach. The children will learn about mindfulness. Lent is a time when we quiet our souls and focus on what really matters. Find your way to a holy Lent and come to church.

## Imagine, Pray, Reflect

This Lent you are invited to imagine, pray, and reflect on our weekly scriptures. Each week there will be a copy of the scripture reading along with a suggested prayer and visual for you to reflect on. There will also be a question you can take with you to reflect on throughout the week. Imagine, Pray, and Reflect this Lenten season.

## Lenten Devotionals

Devotionals have arrived! We have a limited number of devotionals available. They are located on top of the drawer at the entryway to the narthex. We are asking for a \$5 donation for each devotional.

## Beauty and the Beast Jr. March 10th 2pm

Come see our own Chloe Jackson star as Belle in her school's production of Beauty and the Beast Junior on Sunday, March 10th at 2pm at the Maryland Theater in Hagerstown, MD. Tickets are \$17 each and can be purchased through the box office at 301-790-2000. This way you avoid the extra fees. You are also invited to bring canned food donations. This show is done every year as part of a month of learning and service at her school around food and hunger and all proceeds from the show will go to the Maryland Food Bank. You can purchase tickets on Ticketmaster here but beware of extra fees:

[https://www1.ticketmaster.com/friends-meeting-school-presents-beauty-and-the-beast-jr/event/15005637E5205F4B?dma\\_id=409](https://www1.ticketmaster.com/friends-meeting-school-presents-beauty-and-the-beast-jr/event/15005637E5205F4B?dma_id=409)

## Support Local School Music Program

Hi, my name is Clarisse Lin and I am currently working with my classmates to raise money for the Northwest High School Instrumental Music Program.

I am a freshman at Northwest and recently am honored to be accepted into the most advanced band at school. Music has been an essential part of my life because it uses my gift to spread joy to others in service to God and the church community. School music programs, on the other hand, have been integral in enhancing my ability to play the flute. By raising money for the program, I hope to give others the joy of music I

continue to receive. I want to ask for you to support my school music program in any ways you can. Thank you so much for your love and support!

For online donation, please go to:

[http://www.snap-raise.com/fundraisers/northwest-instrumental-music-2018/participant/5390310?share\\_type=clipboard](http://www.snap-raise.com/fundraisers/northwest-instrumental-music-2018/participant/5390310?share_type=clipboard)

I am also collecting cash or check donations (payable to Northwest HS) by March 11.

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Thank you so much!

Sincerely, Clarisse

## Noontime Lenten Discussion Series

Please join a Noontime Lenten Discussion Series beginning March 13<sup>th</sup> and continuing each Wednesday through April 10<sup>th</sup>.

We will meet in the narthex and drinks will be provided from noon to 1 p.m.

## Lenten Soupers Begin March 13th at 6:30pm

Starting March 13th at 6:30pm join us for Lenten Soupers. We will gather together for a simple soup dinner and good conversation around the dinner table. Then we will watch a short TED talk and participate in discussion and maybe learn a spiritual discipline or two that helps us pay more attention to where God is moving in our lives and in the world.

### March 13: Paying Attention to God on the Move in Religion

At a moment when the world seems to be spinning out of control, religion might feel

irrelevant -- or like part of the problem. But Rabbi Sharon Brous believes we can reinvent religion to meet the needs of modern life. In this impassioned talk, Brous shares four principles of a revitalized religious practice and offers faith of all kinds as a hopeful counter-narrative to the numbing realities of violence, extremism and pessimism.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/sharon\\_brous\\_it\\_s\\_time\\_to\\_reclaim\\_and\\_reinvent\\_religion](https://www.ted.com/talks/sharon_brous_it_s_time_to_reclaim_and_reinvent_religion)

### **March 20: Paying Attention to God on the Move in Ideas about Disabilities**

Tonight we'll hear two TED talks - one by a young Autistic woman and another by a mom to a child with a serious disability. What can they teach us about how God is working in the lives of all people, including the disabled? What can they tell us about inclusion and how to find value in different ways of understanding the world around us?

[https://www.ted.com/talks/rosie\\_king\\_how\\_autism\\_freed\\_me\\_to\\_be\\_myself](https://www.ted.com/talks/rosie_king_how_autism_freed_me_to_be_myself)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/heather\\_lanier\\_good\\_and\\_bad\\_are\\_incomplete\\_stories\\_we\\_tell\\_ourselves](https://www.ted.com/talks/heather_lanier_good_and_bad_are_incomplete_stories_we_tell_ourselves)

### **March 27: Paying Attention to God on the Move in Our Lives as We Age**

Each one of us ages every single day that goes by. But does that mean our lives are over once we hit a certain age? What is the secret to staying young or to embracing the age you are, no matter the number? How is God moving in our lives even as we get older and how can we listen to our calling and minister to the world regardless of our age?

[https://www.ted.com/talks/isabel\\_allende\\_how\\_to\\_live\\_passionately\\_no\\_matter\\_your\\_age](https://www.ted.com/talks/isabel_allende_how_to_live_passionately_no_matter_your_age)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_gilbert\\_you\\_are\\_always\\_changing](https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_gilbert_you_are_always_changing)

### **April 3: Paying Attention to God on the Move in our Neighborhoods**

Theaster Gates, a potter by training and a social activist by calling, wanted to do

something about the sorry state of his neighborhood on the south side of Chicago. So he did, transforming abandoned buildings to create community hubs that connect and inspire those who still live there (and draw in those who don't). In this passionate talk, Gates describes his efforts to build a "miniature Versailles" in Chicago, and he shares his fervent belief that culture can be a catalyst for social transformation in any city, anywhere. How might God be calling on us to use creativity to bring new life to Germantown and the Upcounty area?

[https://www.ted.com/talks/theaster\\_gates\\_how\\_to\\_revive\\_a\\_neighborhood\\_with\\_imagination\\_beauty\\_and\\_art](https://www.ted.com/talks/theaster_gates_how_to_revive_a_neighborhood_with_imagination_beauty_and_art)

### **April 10: Paying Attention to God on the Move in Nature**

We know that God made our beautiful natural world, but are we paying attention to how God is still moving and creating all around us? Tonight we'll watch two shorter TED talks. One talk focuses on the hidden miracles of the natural world and the other urges us to see beauty in nature all around us and find gratitude in that beauty. How can our love for God extend to our love of nature and how is God calling on us to protect God's precious creation?

[https://www.ted.com/talks/louie\\_schwartzberg\\_hidden\\_miracles\\_of\\_the\\_natural\\_world](https://www.ted.com/talks/louie_schwartzberg_hidden_miracles_of_the_natural_world)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/louie\\_schwartzberg\\_nature\\_beauty\\_gratitude#t-219424](https://www.ted.com/talks/louie_schwartzberg_nature_beauty_gratitude#t-219424)

## **Party Host Appreciation**

The party committee would like to thank all the hosts that have held parties up to March 2nd for creating wonderful opportunities to meet and grow together as a church community. So far we have had s'mores by the fire pit with Laura Lineberger and Beth Lauriat, played bingo with Ruth Bulgar, wine and dined with Shelly Moore, ate Paella with Deb Anderson and Bob Fraley, sang and danced karaoke at Gina and Ron Domingo, learned the rules of Mexican

Train at Jeanne Springmann's and heard Scottish tea stories with delicious teas and had sweet delights made by Deborah Tomblyn! Whew! And there's still seven more parties to come!! We are grateful for the generosity of all the hosts and appreciate all their efforts on behalf of this fundraiser to assist with toys for the children's nursery and for the women's retreat. We will celebrate all our wonderful hosts after the last party in June!! Thank you!! Carol Brandt, Jeanne Springmann and Joyce Miller (party committee members)

## **Pulp Pilgrims Book Group**

Our March book is Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver. We will meet March 24 at 11:30.

## **Beginning Needle Felting Class Easter Egg-stravaganza!**

During the Soul of Aging sessions, the topic of creativity was raised. It was decided that members of the group wanted to gather informally from time to time for opportunities to create with others from UCCSV.

Some in the group were especially interested in learning the art of felting. Lois Sumser and Suzanne Schmidt spent an afternoon with Laurie Soherr, felting teacher who has agreed to guide members of UCCSV on how to felt Easter Eggs such as the ones below.



Sunday, March 31, 1-3:30 pm  
21614 Slidell Road, Boyds, MD 20841  
(Lois Sumser's Home)  
Cost: \$20 (One time offer)

You will be given supplies to create an egg, guidance in use of tools, and instructions on how to create a three-dimensional needle felted egg. Using various techniques, you will then decorate your egg

in your own unique style. Introductions to the felting needle, roving, rolling, poking, and sculpting will be covered. Plus you'll spend the afternoon with happy people!

Class is limited to 8.

**RSVP to Lois by March 16 by calling/texting 240 780-6279**

To view Laurie's portfolio, please visit:  
<http://raisingthebarsoap.weebly.com/>

## **Volunteers Needed**

We are in need of Liturgists and Ushers for the month of April. If you are available, please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office this Sunday. Many thanks.

## **Lent in a Bag**

Families with children under 18 are welcome to take home a "Lent in a Bag," a bag of hands on Lenten activities along with a creative weekly Lenten devotional families can color and discuss together. Get your purple Lent in a Bag this Sunday at church!

## **Spring for Fruit: Germantown Help Pantry Collection**

As we welcome the start of spring this month we celebrate the sweet warm weather by sharing food with our hungry neighbors. In March we will be collecting canned or plastic tubs of fruit for the Germantown Help Food Pantry. Please place your donations in the basket in the Narthex by the coat closet. As always you are welcome to give whatever food you wish, we just designate a monthly target food to generate interest and excitement in our donations.

## **March Calendar**

Adopt-A-Road (9am) – March 9

Pizza Night at Ledos – March 12

Lenten Soupers (6:30pm) – March 13, 20, 27

Lenten Devotional Group (12noon) – March 13, 20, 27

Choir Practice (7:30pm) – March 14, 21, 28

Mens Breakfast (9:00am) – March 16

Womens Retreat Meeting (11:30am) – March 17

Trustees Meeting (6:30pm) – March 18

Council Meeting (7:00pm) – March 18

One Anothering (10am) – March 23

Social Action Committee Meeting (11:30am) –  
March 24

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group (11:30am) – March 24

PFLAG (2:30pm) – March 24

Needle Felting Class (1-3:30pm at Lois Sumser's  
Home) – March 31