



Spirit News

March 8, 2018

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

- Prayer of comfort for Bill Van Orman on the death of his father Fred.
- Prayer for Katy Crawley's recovery from shoulder surgery.
- 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 107:1-9 and Mark 5:24-34

This Sunday at UCCSV

Even the most devout among us has doubts about prayer's power at times. We want to believe in it when our loved ones are ill or there is something weighing on our hearts, but we wonder if God is listening. And if our prayers don't seem to be answered, what then? How do we listen to know if God has responded to our prayers? How can we learn to become persistent in our requests and in our search for answers? Join us for worship this Sunday at 10am and help us to wrestle with these questions. Experience community and love by participating in Holy Communion. Use your voice to pray and sing. Find peace in the silence. Step out of the rush of the world and come and listen. Come and find yourself renewed for the week ahead.

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

Join us next Wednesday, March 14th, at 6:30pm for a simple soup supper and stay for a discussion about what is necessary in order to

rise above the pains of our lives. After dinner we will watch a short video of a presentation called "First the Pain, Then the Rising" by Glennon Doyle Melton, author and blogger. Christianity holds a life truth that sometimes is ignored, especially in a world focused on success and being endlessly positive. Jesus showed us the way. The only way to the resurrection is through the cross. What could that mean for our lives? Be a part of the discussion. If you want to watch the video ahead of time you can find it here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpBnGHjda14&t=0s&list=PL7ZqPBEw7L-3CLYEc8m_DZBut08zYK6R7&index=5

Lenten Soupers Sign up

Here's a sign up for the food for the Lenten Soupers:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A4A722A02-lenten2>

March for Our Lives - March 24th

On Saturday, March 24th, the students and survivors from Parkland High School, and other student groups from around the country, will be leading the nation in a protest against gun violence. The kids and families of March For Our Lives will take to the streets of Washington DC to demand that their lives and safety become a priority and that we end gun violence and mass shootings in our schools today. Details about the March are still being worked out. However, the UCC would like to establish a faith presence at the march and coordinate and connect churches that are marching. If you would like to be a part of UCCSV's march contingent, please let Holly know. There may also be students and families looking for a place to stay for the march. If you would be willing to house marchers for a night or two so that people from around the country can participate in this important moment in history,

please let Pastor Holly know that so that we can share that information with our UCC coordination team as well. Email HollyRJackson@gmail.com.

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.

Wednesday for WUMCO!

On Wednesday, March 21, all who dine at Bassett's Restaurant, 19950 Fisher Ave., Poolesville, will also be contributing to helping those in need in Poolesville, Boyds, Barnesville, Beallsville, and Dickerson. Bassett's will give 10% of their income that day – lunch and dinner, dine in or carry out – to WUMCO Help. Please mark your calendars and join WUMCO supporters in celebrating our 50th anniversary year at Bassett's on March 21st.



Rice is So Nice, Can you Share it Twice?



UCC of Seneca Valley is trying to gather 100 pounds of rice for the Germantown Help food bank in the month of March. Rice is a nutritious staple for many families, but for some in our community it is hard to put on the table. If you can, please help by donating two or more bags or boxes of rice in March. The rate of food insecurity in Germantown is among the highest in Montgomery County. Thanks for supporting this ongoing social action effort.

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness Book Discussion

The United States has the highest rate of incarceration in the world - higher than Russia, China and Iran. Over 2.3 million men in America are in prison - about half for drug crimes. Thirty years ago, before the "War on Drugs" was implemented, there were only 300,000 people in the American prison system. Seventy percent of all men imprisoned are African-American or Hispanic. An African-American male is sentenced an average of a 20 to 50 times longer prison term than a white male convicted of the same drug crime. These convictions remain on their records permanently, limiting their voting rights and their ability to find employment.

Pastor Holly will lead a discussion of the book and this important social justice issue on April 18th and 25th.



Ledo Pizza Night March 13

The second Tuesday of each month will be UCC Seneca Valley night at Ledo Pizza on Wisteria Drive in Germantown. Ledo will give UCCSV a portion of its sales (between 10%-20% depending on the amount spent) from both eat in and carry out all day. You must present a flyer (available at church or at Ledos Tuesday evening starting at 5:30pm) to have your sale counted towards our total. Join us for an inexpensive, kid-friendly, evening out and help us raise some funds for UCCSV!

P.S. A copy of the flyer is attached to this email.

Calendar of Events

- Adopt-A-Road (9:00am) – March 10
- Pizza Night at Ledo's – March 13
- Lent Devotional (12:30pm) – March 14
- Lenten 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

Spring forward!

Set your clocks ahead
one hour this Sunday.