



Spirit News

May 10, 2018

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
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Prayer Requests

- Continued prayers for Liberty Millendez, friend of the Domingo Family, who is undergoing chemo. May God's blessings of healing and strength be with her (Gina Domingo).
- Continued prayers for strength and courage for Michelle Cohen as she battles multiple myeloma. Please Lord, give her as much time on this earth as possible so she can spend it with her young daughter (Terri Molaski).
- Continuing prayers for Ed and his family as Ed receives Hospice care (Heidi Harmon).
- Ongoing Prayer for my mother, Margaret P. Hall "for illness and God's will," sister's Patti and Brinda Hall – caretakers (Jim Hall)
- 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 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
John 17:6-19

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's a very exciting Sunday at UCCSV! In addition to focusing on and connecting with a mothering image of God, we will have three baptisms. Bethany, Clarisse, and Miranda, youth who have been a part of our community since they were little, will be baptized in anticipation of making their Confirmation next Sunday, May 20th. As their faith community we will cheer them on as they participate in this special sacrament and choose, through means of water and promises, to follow Jesus and know that they always are loved by and belong to God. Holly will preach on Jesus praying like a mother and the choir will sing "I Was There to Hear Your Morning Cry." Don't miss this very special Sunday in the life of our congregation.

Confirmation Night Out: What Have You Been Doing All Year?!

This Friday, May 11th, this year's UCCSV Confirmation Class invites the congregation to join us for a great night of intergenerational fun. Starting at 6:30pm with a pizza dinner you will get to experience a lesson in the life of our Confirmands. Play the fun games they have played. Learn how to study the Bible using

emojis. Learn some of the ways they have been praying together. Have a great time with this church's youth in celebration of all they have accomplished this year. Then on Sunday, May 20th you'll be ready to cheer them on as they make their Confirmation and become full members of UCCSV. Join us!!



Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for June 3rd.

Committee chairs and others who write reports, please send those to our Office Manager at uccsv@verizon.net as soon as possible.

Pride Sunday at UCCSV



On Sunday, June 10th we will celebrate LGBTQ+ pride at UCCSV. This is also the weekend of DC Pride Fest. It would be incredibly powerful on

this day to hear stories from UCCSV community members and friends who are LGBTQ+ about why pride is so important to them and what it means to be part of a church that is Open and Affirming where they are encouraged to continue to grow in their faith journey throughout their life. If you would be willing to share a 3-5 minute testimonial on Pride Sunday, please let Holly know or email her at HollyRJackson@gmail.com. This is not a sermon. It is simply you telling your story of how being able to be out and safe at church has affected your faith journey and/or somehow changed your life. We want to hear your story and offer it up to the God who loves you exactly as you are!

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of Liturgists and Ushers for the month of June. Your help filling these important roles here at UCCSV is greatly appreciated. Please consider signing up on the bulletin board outside the church office. Choir practice ends June 7th. Choir members are urged to sign up for the summer months. Many thanks to everyone!!!



May is Tuna Month

You can tune a piano but you can't tun-a fish! In all seriousness, each month we collect specific food items for Germantown Help's food pantry.

In April we collected 42 jars of peanut butter for the hungry in our town. Now in May we are collecting canned tuna. Help us to stock the shelves with good food for those in need in our area.

Adopt-A-Road

Join UCCSV friends and members as we make a part of Middlebrook Road beautiful.

When: Saturday, May 12th
Where: Meet at Seneca Valley High School
Time: 9:00am

Calling All Book Lovers

The Gaithersburg Book Festival is a wonderful event held on the grounds of Gaithersburg City Hall, May 19, 10:00 - 6:00. Free! There will be about 100 authors presenting including award winning novelist Alice McDermott. There is a children's village, live music, book signings and sales, and food trucks. This will be my 9th year to volunteer and you can catch me at the Mystery Tent.



- Kerry Stoltzfus

Calendar of Events

Intergenerational Fun Night (6:30pm) – May 11
Adopt-A-Road (9am) – May 12
Mother's Day Service and Baptisms – May 13
Men's Breakfast (9am) – May 19
Pentecost and Confirmation – May 20
Trustees Meeting (6:30pm) – May 21
Council Meeting (7pm) – May 21
Lord's Table at St. Martins (1pm) – May 22
Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) –
May 27
PFLAG (2:30pm) – May 27

Coming June 3rd

Children's Sunday
Annual Congregational Meeting (immediately
after church service)
Grubby Sunday (immediately after Meeting)