



# Spirit News

May 16, 2019

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley  
An Open and Affirming Congregation  
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Website: [UCCSenecaValley.org](http://UCCSenecaValley.org)

## Prayer Requests

- Prayers for Becky Lemons who lost her mom. May she find the strength during this time (Terri and Dee Dee).
- Thanks for the life of Rachel Held Evans, a progressive witness who died this week.
- Ongoing prayer for Suzanne Schmidt. Prayers for Suzanne and her surgery team, and for a positive outcome, as she has back surgery at Shady Grove Hospital (Dan Davis).
- Ongoing prayer for the healing of Fran both body and spirit (Paula-Marie).
- Ongoing prayer for Douglas who has been having serious headaches for the last 3 weeks (Maggie)
- Ongoing prayers for my Aunt following surgery – she is improving (Renee Morales).
- Ongoing prayers for Wayne Tipping as he deals with heart issues (Paula-Marie Read).

**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.

## 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, May 19, our focus will be on:  
Acts 11:1-18

## This Sunday at UCCSV

While Pastor Holly is away at the Women's Retreat we welcome the Rev. Jerry Fuss to help lead us in worship. Rev. Fuss will preach on a story from the Book of Acts about how the Spirit helps us to change, transform, and move beyond tradition to new ways of thinking and living. Come be the church together and imagine how God is calling us to change with the Spirit's help! Join us for worship at 10am.

## Pictures from the Last Year

On Sunday, June 9th, we will celebrate this past year in ministry at UCCSV. We need your pictures and videos to help highlight all the friendships, service, fun, and spiritual growth we have experienced in 2018-2019! If you have pictures or videos that you have not already shared with Holly or on our facebook page, please look through your phone or computer and send them to [HollyRJackson@gmail.com](mailto:HollyRJackson@gmail.com) or share them on our group fb page. Also, think



back to some of your favorite memories or experiences this year - whether it was in worship, at a party, doing a service project, being with church friends, etc. - and tell us about it. In a sentence or paragraph let us know how being a part of this community in the past year has been meaningful or transformative for you. Then on June 9th join us for a celebratory Pentecost worship service where we lift up what it means to be the church together at UCCSV.

## Upcoming Sundays at UCCSV

May 26th - Holy Humor Sunday - Come laugh with God!

June 2nd - Children and Youth Sunday

June 9th - Pentecost and Celebrating the year in ministry at UCCSV (Congregational Meeting Sunday)



## Germantown Help Food Bank

Please support the Germantown Help food bank by donating 1 lb. or 2 lbs. bags of rice during the month of May.



## Happy Announcement!

You might have heard that Stefan Petrov and his wife, Kate, are expecting their first child, due in June. We are thrilled for this special family and want to surround them with our support and celebrate! Please save the date for June 2nd, when we will have a special fellowship time and an opportunity to share gifts, cards and best wishes with Stefan after worship. You might check out the baby registry at <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/kate-weber-petrova-june-2019-collegepark/3BDCX9S0LOPFU>.

Questions, contact Jen Fuss  
[jenfloryfuss@gmail.com](mailto:jenfloryfuss@gmail.com).

## How is God Calling You?

Have you been feeling a call to a certain ministry or service area at church? Has God tugged on your heart or equipped you with gifts you could use as a church leader? In June our congregation will meet to elect a new slate of church leaders. This will include all the chairs of committees and a few at large positions to the Council. If you have been feeling a call to leadership, or even just a feeling like you would like to get more involved at church, this is a wonderful time to connect. Our Nominating Committee will be meeting this month to fill all open positions. If you are interested in earning more please contact Holly at [HollyRJackson@gmail.com](mailto:HollyRJackson@gmail.com). Watch for more information to come.

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for June 9th.

Committee chairs and others who write reports, please send those to our Office Manager at [uccsv@verizon.net](mailto:uccsv@verizon.net) as soon as possible. Deadline for reports is May 31.

## Volunteers - Talk to Us

Are you a volunteer out in the community? Great... we'd like to hear about your volunteering adventures outside our church! It would be amazing to hear the stories of all the volunteer work that our UCCSV community is doing. By sharing your stories, you educate the rest of us, and maybe we might want to get involved as well. Please send us a story of the groups, organizations, efforts, etc. that you volunteer for and we will print them in the Spirit

News (one story at a time). Send your stories to John Bartkowiak at [jbinmd@gmail.com](mailto:jbinmd@gmail.com).

## Pulp Pilgrims Book Group

June's Book. Date to follow.

**The Alice Network** by Kate Quinn (2017) sounds like an excellent story of a post-WW2 young pregnant woman who goes to Europe to find her beloved missing cousin Rose. It becomes a spy-thriller story. The library has NO electronic or CD copies, 31 book copies with 0 available and 39 holds.



### Calendar

Women's Retreat – May 17 thru May 19  
Men's Breakfast (9:00am) – May 18  
Trustees Meeting (6:00pm) – May 20  
Council Meeting (7:00pm) – May 20  
One Anothering Group (10:00am) – May 25  
Social Action Committee Mtg. (11:30am) – May 26  
PFLAG (2:30pm) – May 26