



Spirit News

May 24, 2018

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

- Bethany is confirmed and Tim and Jen celebrate their 18th wedding anniversary (Libby Fuss).
- Pray for Claudine. May she be pain free soon and heal quickly from surgery (anonymous).
- Pray for Ken Forester who is recovering from brain tumor surgery (anonymous).
- Pray for Deloise Johnson. Please pray for my mother because she has terrible back pain and can't come to church (Larry Powell).
- Ongoing prayers for Bob Fraley and Isaac Fraley on their roads to recovery and healing. May they know the love and grace that is there for them (anonymous).
- Ongoing prayers for employment opportunities for Dave and Shelly (Shelly Moore).
- Continued prayers for our son, Morris to find a job that will sustain his family and utilize his skills (Aaron and Sabine Cox).
- 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
Isaiah 6:1-8 and John 3:1-17

Church Office Closed

Closed tomorrow 5/25/18 for the Memorial Weekend holiday.

This Sunday at UCCSV

Yes, it's a holiday weekend and the start of summer but we're still having church this Sunday! And in fact we are having a special Sunday event called "Ask the Pastor." Instead

of a normal sermon you get to ask your burning questions about the Bible, about the Trinity, about spiritual practices, about my faith journey, etc. Think of your questions now and then in church you will write down your question and we'll gather them together, pray over them, and then answer as many as we can in the time we have. If your question doesn't get answered we may use it for a sermon topic another day. So if you are in town come join us for a fun Sunday morning in community and get your questions answered, or at least asked (because as Holly will tell you she does not have all the answers but sure finds it fun to wrestle with the ideas). There will be regular Sunday School as well.

Summer Camp Nights

Several of you offered to volunteer to help run a UCCSV arts and music themed camp this coming summer. However, given the late date we'd rather do something small (and do it well) to work a "dry run" and then carefully plan for a full week of camp next summer. At this time we are looking to schedule two Wednesday evenings during the summer to run a camp/workshop for 4-12 year olds from both inside and outside the church. Holly will be sending out possible dates to volunteers to help coordinate and we will announce specific dates as soon as we have them. So be on the look out for some great arts and music themed nights this summer and plan to come out and bring your friends and family!

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 panty. 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.

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.

Grubby Sunday

Wear your grubbies to church!

When: Immediately following the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 3rd

Everyone is invited to participate.

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!

Pulp Pilgrims Book Group

We are reading *The Stranger in the Woods* by Michael Finkel. There are 29 copies in the library system but only 1 copy in the Germantown branch so you'll need to place a hold to begin the transfer process. You will find this book in the biography section.

We will meet Sunday, June 10th at 11:30am in the Youth Room.

Deborah

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of a Liturgist for June 24th and Ushers for June 17th and 24th. 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!!!

Calendar of Events

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)