



Spirit News

May 31, 2018

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

- Pray for those traveling and for those serving in harm's way (anonymous).
- Prayers for Adam, Tom and Lois. Praise that our Air BnB, Serenity on Slidell, is fully booked through August 31 (Adam DeBaugh).
- 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).
- 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
Matthew 19:13-15

This Sunday at UCCSV

Its Children and Youth Sunday at UCCSV this week! We'll spend some time in worship celebrating and highlighting the gifts of our children and youth and giving you a taste of what they are experiencing and learning in their Sunday School classes. It's also a Communion Sunday so the kids will join Pastor Holly at the communion table to help tell the story of why we share this special meal together. The Children's Choir will sing "God is so Good" and the Adult and Youth Choirs will join together to sing the anthem for the day. While you're in church don't forget to pick up a Flat Jesus to take with you on your summer adventures. It's going to be a great Sunday morning of fun and joy at UCCSV. Come join us!

The Return of Flat Jesus

Flat Jesus is back for Summer 2018! Last Summer many of us took a Flat Jesus, colored him, and then took him all around with us on our summer adventures taking pictures with him as we went. Then came Fall when we compiled all our pictures for a wonderful slide show that we got to watch on Welcome Back Sunday in September. Well it's a new summer and Flat Jesus wants to remind you that no matter where you are, God goes with you. Take a new Flat Jesus and color and laminate him (or use last year's if you still have one) and be sure to take lots of pictures with him. And not only while on vacation! Last year we had pictures of Flat Jesus just hanging out at home with us, at work with us, visiting family with us, and more. Look for your Flat Jesus at the back of the church sanctuary on the Worship Station table.

Central Atlantic Conference Minister Search Committee Update

I wanted to give you a quick update on where we are in the search for our new Conference Minister. The Search Committee is currently receiving profiles but we are also compiling information about what we really need and want in a new Conference Minister. We'd love to have your input. I'd be glad to meet in person with anyone who would like to give me feedback. In particular we are looking for people's perception of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats you see when it comes to the Conference. (As a reminder, the Central Atlantic Conference is our regional governing body that stretches from New Jersey to Virginia encompassing five regional Associations, including the Potomac Association of which we are a part.) Or if you would prefer an online way to give feedback

there is a survey online that you can fill out. More information is below:

The Conference Minister Search Committee is holding a series of "discussion groups" throughout the Conference between now and the end of June.

If you find that you are unable to attend one of these events, please complete the Survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P9KGDTV> as we still want your input!

The survey will remain open through Friday, June 15, 2018, but please take the time to complete it sooner rather than later!

The survey and discussion groups ask for input on the following:

1. The strengths of our conference.
2. The soft spots (weaknesses / challenges) our conference faces.
3. The opportunities on the horizon and the potentials that if seized would lead to giant gains for the conference.
4. The threats that could impede or block these opportunities.

Inputs and comments will be used by the Search Committee to help inform the characteristics, skills, and personality of the Conference Minister being sought.

-Rev. Holly Jackson

Gender Revolution: What Does It All Mean?

Cisgender
Transgender
Nonbinary
Gender Nonconforming
Gender Identity
Gender Expression

Have you ever wondered what all these terms really mean? What they have in common and/or how they are different? In an effort to increase knowledge and make sure that we are a safe space for those who often deal with marginalization and outright discrimination... and to be more and more truly open and affirming, UCCSV will host a time of learning on **Wednesday, June 6th from 7-9 PM.** We will watch a documentary called Gender Revolution and have a time of Q&A afterward. Our special guest will be LJ Ingram, who is the Chair of the UCC Central Atlantic Conference LGBTQ+ Network. Please join us as we learn about each other and how to do a better job of embracing all of God's amazing children.

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.

Ledo Pizza Night June 12

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!

Volunteers Needed

Summer is almost here! We need Liturgists and Ushers for all dates over the summer months asap. Please sign up this Sunday on the sign up sheets outside the office.



June Calendar of Events

Children's Sunday – This Sunday, June 3
 Annual Congregational Meeting –
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 Grubby Sunday – This Sunday, June 3
 Deacon's Meeting (7:00 pm) – June 4
 Gender Revolution (7:00pm) – June 6
 Pride Sunday – June 10
 Pulp Pilgrim's Book Group (11:30am) –
 June 10
 Pizza Night at Ledo's – June 12
 Movie Night (6:30pm) – June 15
 Men's Breakfast (9:00am) – June 16
 Trustees' Meeting (6:00pm) – June 18
 Council Meeting (7:00pm) – June 18
 Social Action Committee Meeting (11:15am) –
 June 24
 PFLAG (2:30pm) – June 24