



Spirit News

October 28, 2020

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
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Email: UCCSV@verizon.net
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Prayer Requests

- Please keep Dee Dee in your prayers as she undergoes carpal tunnel surgery (Terri Molaski).
- Prayers for the students in our community who have not been able to do online school (Jennifer Fuss).
- Prayers for immigrant children without their parents (Joyce Miller).
- Prayers that we can treat each person with respect, dignity, and justice (Diane Teigiser).
- Prays for those going to the polls and those who help them to cast their votes (Julia Schucker).
- Please pray for healing and recovery for my niece Leisa Lee who is recovering from a surgery (Regina Domingo).
- Prayers for Eric who has received a new heart but is dealing with serious complications (Suzanne and Dan).
- Send snow and rain to CO and CA to put out the fires (Deb and Madelyn).
- For Carol and Bob; for Ruthann (Luz Granada).

This Sunday at UCCSV

At the start of what promises to be a roller coaster week of politics, stress, and emotions, we will come to worship on Sunday morning. Let's prepare our hearts and minds for whatever happens during the election this week by grounding ourselves in who God calls us to be and how God asks us to act no matter what is happening around us. We will have a special blessing for voting with multiple voices from our congregation. And on this All Saint's Day we will remember our ancestors, both familial and our ancestors in the faith that inspire us to keep working for justice. There will be a special tribute

to Sally Duncan (one of the matriarchs of our church who died in February) so if you have any pictures of Sally or words of remembrance about her please send them to HollyRJackson@gmail.com.

Please bring a candle with you as you sit down to worship. Also remember to bring bread or a cracker and wine or juice with you for communion. The Zoom room opens at 9:30am and worship will begin at 10am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84470757726?pwd=VUhkWDZacGZBUFBwYWISU3QxN3dlUT09>

Meeting ID: 844 7075 7726

Passcode: 20874

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 844 7075 7726

Passcode: 20874

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcm87sP9zS>

UCCSV Intergenerational Halloween Party on Zoom, Friday, October 30th at 6:30pm

All are welcome (including people of all ages) to join us for our first ever Zoom Halloween Party! Costumes are highly encouraged but not required. We will admire costumes, play games, eat goodies together, and more! Bring dinner or your Halloween candy or other treats, and your sense of fun and be a part of community!

Topic: UCCSV Halloween Party
Time: Oct 30, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81911388780?pwd=ZDM0WWtRTlIBcmdVQnJpcFpQd0hKZz09>
Meeting ID: 819 1138 8780
Passcode: 20874

Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
Meeting ID: 819 1138 8780
Passcode: 20874

Baby Gender Reveal Party

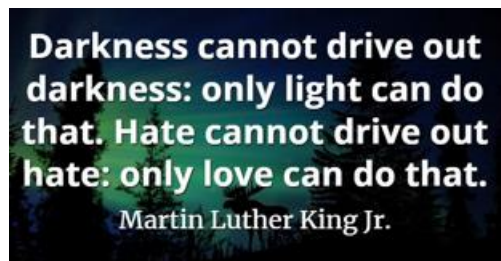
Bryan and Camila Young are delighted to share with UCCSV the news that their family is growing, and that their baby is due in February 2021! They know that between political turmoil, the pandemic, and other situations, these are hard times for some. In these trying times, they'd like to share their joy with friends and family by celebrating their baby's gender reveal party. Folks are welcome to join them Saturday, October 31st from 1 to 2 p.m. for a Zoom costume party! Anyone who is interested should send an email to Camila at cespinapr@gmail.com so she can send a Zoom invite and link.

Congregational Check In/Happy Hour - Fridays at 7 PM

This Friday's Happy Hour has been cancelled. Please join us instead for our UCCSV Halloween Party.

Honoring Sally Duncan for All Saint's Day

As we approach All Saint's Day on November 1st we want to have a special honoring of Saints we have lost this year. For our congregation we lost Sally Duncan, one of the great Matriarchs of our congregation, back in February. Because of the move to online worship we were really never able to honor Sally before this. So on November 1st we'd love to share your photos and maybe a story or two about Sally. If you have pictures of Sally or a story you'd like to share about her please email them to HollyRJackson@gmail.com.



Prayer Events:

1. Central Atlantic Conference Election Eve Prayer Vigil - Monday, 11/2 at 7pm
 2. UCCSV Time of Prayer, and Reflection - Wednesday 11/4 7pm
- (Zoom links for both events will be emailed by Pastor Holly)

UCC Our Church Our Vote 2020

Being a Civil Voice in Uncivil Times

As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. [1 Corinthians 12: 21-26]

“31 Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, 32 and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.” [c][Ephesians 4:31-32]

Tips for Faithful and Respectful Discussion

Show Respect: Rather than trying to “win” a debate with your arguments, judge your success by how well you demonstrate respect for other people.

Listen: Focus on what the other person is saying, rather than focusing on what you are going to say next.

Seek Understanding: Ask open-ended questions to understand the context from which other people are speaking, ask yourself why they see things the way they do.

Share Your Own Views Well: Put thought and energy into articulating your own views clearly and concisely. What do you believe and why? Statistics can be helpful, but often sharing your personal stories is most effective.

Keep Your Head: Remember to pause, take a deep breath, and give yourself time to respond. Few people benefit from a shouting match. You can help set the tone of the conversation by continuing to act with civility even when others are not.

The Voting Task Force and Social Action Committee would like to take a moment to thank so many of you for joining our efforts to Get Out The Vote. On this final week before election day we encourage you to stay focused in supporting the very important process that is

about to unfold. Blessings on a safe and impactful Election Day!

The Day After the Election: A Time for Sharing, Prayer, and Reflection

It's unclear whether we will know the results of Election Day on Wednesday, November 4th but regardless it may be necessary to calm our anxieties, or soothe our griefs, or celebrate our joys. In order to make space for this we will have a time of sharing, prayer, and reflection on Wednesday, November 4th at 7pm on Zoom. No matter how you are feeling that night you are welcome to sit with us and restore your soul in community. All are welcome.

Topic: Reflection, Prayer, and Healing after the Election

Time: Nov 4, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83752011479?pwd=M1JINUhhVVTQXd6YUZ4bVQrWUVsdz09>

Meeting ID: 837 5201 1479

Passcode: 20874

Dial by your location

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Upcoming Sundays at UCCSV

November 1 - A Blessing for the Election
(Communion)

November 8 - Together for Joy: Where are we finding joy in this season?

November 15 - Together for Joy: Finding joy in service and justice

November 22 - Consecration Sunday - Together for Joy: Finding joy in thanksgiving and generosity

November 29 - 1st Sunday in Advent - I Believe in the Sun Even When I Can't See it: Finding Hope for Tomorrow in the Midst of Struggle

Zoom Worship Volunteer Opportunities – Updated Signup Genius

Please help us update our signup genius through the end of the year. If you would like to help lead our Zoom worship experience there are ways you can help. We still need a "Greeter" and a "Liturgist" every Sunday. Greeters will welcome people as they come into the meeting before worship by voice or by chat and help by supplying important web links in the chat box. Liturgists will lead the service with Holly. We also welcome musical video offerings of instruments or voice that we can use during worship. In addition, we welcome pictures of our congregation during this time apart

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a4a722a02-uccsv>

Front Porch Hours

Pastor Holly will be having "Front Porch Hours" on Thursdays from 4-6pm every week. During that time she will be sitting out on the church's front porch (by the office doors). You can join her on the porch during that time for conversation, pastoral concerns, suggestions, or whatever else

you might want to share with her. It's time she wants to offer to you. No appointment needed. Masks will be required and safe physical distance will be maintained. Bored or lonely? Anxious or frustrated? Wanting to chat about the news and the state of the world? Full of ideas or feeling empty? Meet her on the "Front Porch" and have a chat! (If those hours don't work and you need to talk to her you can always make an appointment by emailing her.)



CENTRAL ATLANTIC CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

God is still speaking,

Central Atlantic Conference Election Eve Prayer Vigil

We invite you to join us in a vigil for this Upcoming Election and the Days Ahead

[Click Here To Join](#)

There will be prayers for

- Wisdom
- Peace
- Justice
- Unity
- Healing

Please join us in a time of much needed prayer for much needed prayer

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phillipians 4: 6-7 New Revised Standard Version)"

In Faith,