



# Spirit News

September 27, 2018

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

- Pray for my father who is recovering from a bout of malaria; pray for my brother who is scheduled for colostomy surgery (Maggie N.)
- Pray for Michael, my nephew, home from open heart surgery. Still has high blood pressure, fever. Prayers of calm and healing for him and family. Prayer for Luz after emergency surgery. Prayer of healing for Floyd (Joyce Miller).
- Please pray for Jim Harding who is struggling with mesothelioma. He and Bill Ormsby have been friends since their Navy days (30 years) (Christie Holland).
- May healing and understanding be given to all victims of sexual assault. May we all open our minds and hearts with compassion and love (anonymous).
- Continued prayer for survivors of sexual violence – courage and healing. Hearers of sexual violence will first believe and fight for the protection of survivors (Shelly Moore).
- Continued prayer for Katy Crowley – safe journey and travel (Shelly Moore).
- Continued prayers for Rilla as she goes into hospice care. Bring her and her family comfort and peace during this difficult time (Paula-Marie).
- Continued prayers for healing of Shelly's knee. Prayers for employment for Dave Moore. Prayers for civility and reconciliation (Shelly Moore).
- 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).

- 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](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 our focus will be on:  
John 15:1-17

## This Sunday at UCCSV

All month we've been focusing on seeing and preparing for God's promised Future With Hope and now on this final Sunday in September we will start to sketch out what that might be and how we might get there. How do we imagine a

future that feels so far away? What are the tools we can use to get us there? Join us this final Sunday of our series and let's find that future together. Our children and youth will join together on this 5th Sunday of the month for an all Sunday School cooperative art project.

## **When the News Triggers Trauma**

The past two weeks of news has often been very difficult to listen to or watch for survivors of trauma and sexual assault. I want to remind you that if you need resources or if you need a safe space or an open ear, I am here and happy to talk with you or meet with you at your convenience. I would also lift up to you the National Sexual Assault Telephone Hotline at 800.656.HOPE and the website for RAINN, which is the nation's largest anti-sexual violence association: <https://www.rainn.org/>. You are not alone.

-Pastor Holly

## **Orientation to UCCSV/New Members Class**

If you are newer to the UCCSV Community we'd love to get to know you more and help you get to know us. It's time for an orientation! Join us after worship on Sunday, October 14 & 28 for conversation and questions. If after these two meetings you would like to become an official member of UCCSV, we will be having people join during worship one Sunday in November BUT that is totally your choice. Mostly this is to connect more with you and help you better understand our church community.

## **Artistic? Love Worship? Want to be Creative?**

### **Worship Team Meeting Sunday September 30**

Holly needs your help! If you are someone who loves to think artistically or creatively and you would like to have input into our Sunday worship services, you are invited to come join us after worship on Sunday, September 30th to help brainstorm and plan. We will be thinking about ideas, themes and ways to enhance our worship for Advent and Christmas this year. Though the seasons are still a few months away, we want to get ideas in place now that will help us to make the coming months truly meaningful and inspiring at UCCSV. No prior experience needed and attending this meeting is not a commitment to future worship team meetings. This is an ad hoc group focused on specific upcoming church seasons and special services.

## **World Communion Sunday Testimonies**

Each year for World Communion Sunday we hear stories about people's experiences around communion and what this special ritual means to them as part of our worship service. This year our focus will be on the experience of communion as a child. Did you have a first communion experience or were you always included in the communion ritual? What did communion taste like and feel like as a child? Is it different than your experience now? We want to hear your story. Please contact Holly at [HollyRJackson@gmail.com](mailto:HollyRJackson@gmail.com) if you would like to share your story of your experience of communion as a child in worship on Sunday, October 7th.

# The Diary of Anne Frank at Rockville Little Theatre

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays September 28-October 7

I am the assistant director of a play whose message is, sadly, quite pertinent to the times we are living in. You are all invited to purchase tickets for this wonderful production. Please go to the RLT website for more details. The box office is now selling tickets for the show. The standard price is \$22 for adults and \$20 for seniors (62+) and students. Group pricing is also available for groups of 10 or more. The box office is open Tues-Sat from 2-7 pm by calling 240-314-8690. As friends and family of the crew (me), you have a special half-price ticket opportunity at \$11. To take advantage of this offer, call the box office to order your tickets directly and give them the box office code for our show, which is **KUGLER**. You are welcome to use this code for your own ticket purchases, but please do not share the code outside of our community.

"Friends and family code" can be used when ordering online or when ordering by calling the box office.

Thanks, John Bartkowiak

## Parties, Parties, Parties

**WHAT:** Continued sign-up to attend many of the fourteen parties hosted by UCCSV members from October to June. The suggested donation for the individual parties is \$10.

**WHY:** The purpose of these small-group parties is to get to know one another more, and to accept donations for items on the church's Wish List.

**WHEN:** After church on Sunday, September 30 and October 7 in the Gathering Room

**WHO:** These parties are coordinated by Carol Brandt, Joyce Miller, and Jeanne Springmann.

## Evening of Performances to kickoff Party Sign-ups on Friday, September 28th

Join us for an evening of wonderful performances, delicious desserts, and an opportunity to participate in a wide range of parties throughout the year. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Room, Laura Lineberger will MC and introduce each host and describe their party while everyone else partakes of chocolate crème pie, pumpkin cake and apple spice among other treats. If you would like to attend a party you can sign up and make a donation to UCCSV. The suggested donation is \$10.

Later in the sanctuary, Dick Bertleman will MC the talent portion of the evening with participants, Holly Jackson, Patrick Jackson, Sabine and Aaron Cox, George and Catherine Benskin, Leo Saligan, and John Teigiser. This party is for everyone!

## Light Bulb Exchange

**When:** September 30<sup>th</sup>  
**Where:** UCCSV Gathering Room  
**Cost:** FREE  
**Sponsor:** Pepco



Bring your incandescent light bulbs and swap them for high-efficiency LED bulbs.  
Max. 3 LEDs per family.

## **You are invited to Love Thy Neighbor: Interfaith Exchange Series**

Montgomery County is home to many rich and varied faith traditions. This year, the local Silver Spring Interfaith Circle invites you to meet your neighbors from this rich variety of traditions!

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 30  
from 2-4 p.m. at the  
Baitur Rahman Mosque  
15000 Good Hope Rd., Silver Spring

We will begin at 1:00 PM with a free lunch!  
We will gather at 2:00 PM for short presentations, Q&A and discussion, as well as refreshments and social time. The panelists will be: Imam Mubashir Ahmad & Imam Sheikh Muhammad Abdullahi.

This will be a wonderful and enriching opportunity to create unity in our world!

All are welcome!  
Please invite your family and friends.  
If you plan on coming, please respond to this e-mail.

We will explore **Christianity** on **Sunday, October 14**, from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM at Transfiguration Episcopal Church, 13925 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, 20904. We will explore Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Sikhism on dates that will be announced. For further information, please respond to this e-mail.

## **Pulp Pilgrims Book Group**

Our October read is *Bad Blood* by John Carreyrou. There are 31 copies in the library system & a waiting list of 71. Let me know if you need a book & I'll try to match you up with someone in our group who has the book.

We will meet Oct 14th at 11:30am in the Narthex. Contact is Deborah Tomblyn.

Our November book is *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. It is the 1st in *The African Trilogy*. The 2nd & 3rd books are *Arrow of God* & *No Longer at Ease*, respectively.

## **2018 Advent Devotional**

Revelation 22:20 – “Come, Lord Jesus” – is nothing short of a prayer for the renewal of humanity. It is the corrective to a society ravaged by gun violence and mass shootings. It’s an indictment of those who elevate the distinctions of nation and tribe to the status of ultimate allegiance.

It’s a vision of a pristine river of life that emanates from one Source and flows through the central street of a city that is illuminated by love. That river nourishes the roots of a tree that gives life...not to a select few...but to people from every nation and culture.

If you long for a world that overflows with God’s love and life, join us in praying this Advent, “Come, Lord Jesus.”

We have preordered a **limited number (10 copies)** [\*\*Come, Lord Jesus: 2018 Advent Devotional\*\*](#). Please sign up today to reserve your copy (on the bulletin board near the Gathering Room). We ask you to donate \$4 per devotional. Delivery expected the end of October.

## **Volunteers Needed**

We are in need of Ushers for October. If you are available, please sign up this Sunday on the bulletin board outside the church office.

## **Neighbors in Need Offering**

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. UCCSV will be taking offerings on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **September Calendar**

Chancel Choir Practice (7:30pm) – September 27  
Kick-off Party and Talent Show – September 28  
Light Bulb Exchange (after worship) – September 30  
Worship Team Meeting (after worship) – September 30

Reminder: For those who signed up - The Soul of Aging,  
Part 1 (9:30am to Noon) – September 29 at the Schmidt  
Davis home