



Spirit News

September 30, 2020

United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
An Open and Affirming Congregation
13421 Clopper Road, Germantown, MD
Phone: (301) 540-3449
Email: UCCSV@verizon.net
Website: UCCSenecaValley.org

Prayer Requests

- Prayer for Luz Marina's continued recovery (Suzanne Schmidt).
- Prayer for courage muscles for the days ahead (Suzanne Schmidt).
- Pray for Luz post knee surgery who moves to rehab today (John Bartkowiak).
- A prayer for Luz and a speedy recovery from her knee surgery (Dan Davis).
- Prayers for my friends Liz and Marion who are facing major transitions in their lives (Jeanne Springmann).
- Prayers for safety and justice for all immigrants suffering at the hands of the US government (Deb and Madelyn Anderson).
- Prayers for wisdom and compassion for our elected officials, that they would act without undue haste and with their eyes on the long-term good of the whole community (Patrick Jackson).
- Pray that this election will help usher in a more just, equitable and peaceful world (Diane Teigiser).
- Prayer for my colleague Wanda, recovering from serious illness (Patrick Jackson).

This Sunday at UCCSV

It's World Communion Sunday! Usually at UCCSV this is a very special Sunday with testimonies about people's experiences with communion, many different kinds of breads, flags from around the world, and more. While this year's celebration will be different, it will still be a wonderful diverse worship service we can share together. Multiple churches from the Potomac Association of the UCC (our regional denominational body) have come together to create a shared service. The service was pre-

recorded but we will watch it together as a group on Zoom. The service includes a Children's Message, a sermon from the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson who is the Associate General Minister for UCC Wider Church Ministries and Operations and Co-Executive for Global Ministries, and a beautiful communion liturgy including pieces of video filmed from our church sanctuary. You'll get to see clergy and church members from many area UCC churches and celebrate the incredible diversity of our area. This truly is a special service you won't want to miss. Be sure to bring your candle and bread or crackers and juice or wine for communion.

As per usual the Zoom room will open 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>



Voting Task Force

The Voting Task Force is hosting a Sign Campaign this Friday (10/2) starting 6:30pm under the church portico.

It will run concurrently with Fire Pit Friday.

Participants are welcome to design a sign to bring home. We will also be designing get out the vote signs for the church grounds. Markers, stickers, and blank lawn signs will be provided.

Social Distancing and Masks are required.

LIFT EVERY VOICE & VOTE!



Register now to Vote!
Encourage your friends and family!

OCTOBER 13 is the deadline to register. MD allows registration in person, at the Early Voting Centers, and on Election Day.

OCTOBER 20 is the deadline to request a ballot by mail, fax, or email.

October 26th - November 2nd Early Voting
7am - 8pm at Germantown Community Recreation Center, 18905 Kingsview Rd. Germantown, MD 20874 For more details and other locations visit 777vote.org.

Voting question link:
<https://elections.maryland.gov>

College Students - YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

Learn how to Register to Vote if you are a college student in MD.

Find your polling place, and other helpful resources can be found at:
<https://www.campusvoteproject.org/stateguides/Maryland>



The United Church of Christ (ucc.org) has established an Our Faith Our Vote Action Center at <https://p2a.co/zv3KyiE>

On this site you can find information on:

How to Register to Vote
How to Vote Early
See Polling Place Locations
Preview Your Ballot

Social Action Committee
Voting Task Force

"What does God require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

Antiracist Intergenerational Book Club

Suzanne Schmidt and Bethany Fuss are hosting an intergenerational book club to work towards antiracism. We have bought 20 copies of "This Book is Anti-Racist" by Tiffany Jewell using a grant from the Potomac Association Faith Formation Committee. We will meet by zoom on Sundays from 7-8 pm for 5 weeks, starting September 27 and ending October 25.

Fourteen participants from ages 15 to 77 have already signed up! We are holding spots for 6 more participants. If you are want to claim one of the remaining spots, please contact Suzanne

Schmidt at revsasphd@gmail.com or Bethany Fuss at mdbfly12@gmail.com

Here is zoom link info for book discussion: (It is the same all through October.)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6863531764?pwd=RZhMV2VWM2JBMHZsaVI5Y1ZSWjNOQT09>

Meeting ID: 686 353 1764

Passcode: 352620

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,6863531764#,,,,,0#,,352620#
US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 686 353 1764

Passcode: 352620

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kkYPjwMEi>



Fire Pit Fridays

Fire Pit Fridays will be held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 7pm of each month thru November 20. Join us this Friday, October 2nd.

Enjoy the chance to connect with others with social distant fellowshiping around a fire.

BYOB&SS (bring your own beverage and smores stuff).

Deacons Care Lists 2020-2021

Each of our 7 Deacons has been assigned individuals or family groups to "care for". Your Deacon is the person who you can reach out to if you have any questions or concerns as a member or friend of UCCSV. If you need someone to talk to in these difficult times you

may certainly reach out to Pastor Holly, but your Deacon is another listening ear available to you. Your Deacon will be reaching out to those on their care lists in the near future.

Zoom Zoom Zoom... Who Are You?

When you log into Zoom on Sunday mornings or other times, we want to live out our mission to be a welcoming and inclusive congregation by welcoming you by name. Did you know that each Sunday a Deacon is scrolling through each of those "squares" that represents a device to check on our congregation and learn who is joining us each week? There is something you can do that not only helps the Deacon who is taking attendance, but also to help newer attendees to learn who you are. We suggest that when you log on, you pay special attention to your Zoom log in name listed at the bottom of your square and make sure it clearly identifies you instead of a generic name or just your email handle or simply "ipad." If it does not please RENAME your Zoom user name by right clicking on your name at the lower left corner of your square or using the 3 dots in the upper right hand corner and clicking "rename". Then type in your name (or family name or the names of those watching). You can do this regardless of whether you have an official Zoom account. Using your name (whether just your first name or your whole name) not only helps the Deacon and members of our congregation to better identify and welcome you, but it also sends a message of welcome to someone who is a first time visitor. This is especially important if you choose to keep your camera off for all or most of the meeting as we may have no other way of identifying you. In addition to your name, you can also add your pronouns after your name. For example, John Bartkowiak (he/him/his). This provides a special inclusive welcome to people of all gender identities. Our Zoom names are the equivalent of

using our nametags if we were in person at church, so let's wear them proudly!

Chat and Chew Lunch Bunch

2nd and 4th Fridays in October
12:15-1:15 at Black Hills Regional Park

Picnic pavilion nearest the playground/bring your own chair if you prefer.

Social distancing protocols required
Contact Jeannie Springmann with questions
Jspring10506@aol.com

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.)

Upcoming Sundays at UCCSV - God on the Move in Technology and Democracy

October 4th - World Communion Sunday:
Worshipping with Potomac Association UCC churches

October 11- Faith and Technology - How sharing our message has changed through the years

October 18- Racial Justice and Voting

October 25 - Guest Preacher: Dr. Helga Basket-Tippet

November 1 - A Blessing for the Election

Zoom Worship Volunteer Opportunities

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