



The Seneca Valley Voice

Carolyn's Column

These past weeks in our family's life, flowing from Aaron and Kate's wedding, to my mother's death, to my father's hospitalization, have given me a renewed appreciation for the local church. Specifically, I am deeply appreciative of this wonderful congregation, as well as our sister congregation in Frederick, Evangelical Reformed UCC (ERUCC), and Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in Spokane, Washington. Through the combination of these three congregations, I also have a renewed appreciation for the church universal. The local church truly *is* a part of the larger body of Christ.

Friends and members of UCCSV have joined us in celebration and in care, supporting us with your presence, sending cards, bringing flowers, delivering food, holding us in prayer. From the first days in December when my parents moved into the retirement community at Edenton, the ministry of hospitality has been extended through the welcome they received here at UCCSV, as well as ERUCC. Even though the names and faces were not those they'd known over nearly 50 years, the welcome and care they received was an extension of the community they'd experienced in Spokane. Whether in Washington state or here in Maryland, marks of the faith we share found expression in each congregation.

You wrapped your love around Kate and Aaron as their own love developed and matured. And when it became clear that their wedding would not be held in the sanctuary where they worshipped regularly, many of you trekked to Frederick to be the community of faith that affirmed and supported their marriage vows.

And then, even though you barely had an opportunity to know my mother, you welcomed those who attended her memorial service, provided beautiful flowers in her memory, gave balm to the soul through the gifts of music, and nourished the community with a lovely reception. I know part of this is because of your particular care for me, and I am grateful beyond words for these many ways in which your support has found expression.

But part of this also comes from the very nature of who we are as a community of faith, joining with one another in times of joy, extending care and concern as the need arises. Your witness is the living out of what it is to be the body of Christ. Thank you.

Blessings,

Carolyn

Christian Education Conversations

Attention of all parents and guardians of children and youth! Attention of all kid-friendly adults!

One of UCCSV's outcomes is that "There will be a fruitful and effective ministry with children and youth." We would like to explore with you the specifics of what that would look like from your perspective. What is needed to bring that outcome into being? The Christian Education Board is inviting your participation in exploring those issues at a potluck on Thursday, 22 July, beginning at 6:00pm. Nursery care will be provided.

New Member Classes

New Member Classes will be held on Sundays, 11, 18, 25 July from Noon-2:00p in the Narthex. If you are interested in learning more about the United Church of Christ, and more specifically, the United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley, you are invited to attend. Attending these classes does not obligate you to join this congregation, but will allow you to share your faith journey with others and help you to decide whether you wish to become a member of this faith community.

If you are already a member or a frequent visitor and would just like to come and meet others who worship at UCCSV, or learn more about UCC, we hope that you will join us too!

If you would like to attend please call the church office at 301-540-3449.

The Progressive Christian Movement: UCC Identity

Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis Missouri, is a seminary of the United Church of Christ. The April issue of their publication, *Eden Next*, included the following short article.

[Eden envisions] being recognized as an 'ecumenical educational center for the progressive Christian movement.' The progressive Christian movement includes those Protestant churches traditionally identified as mainline and a significant proportion of the historically African-American churches.

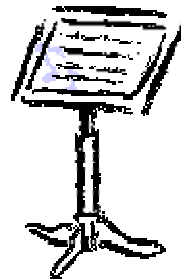
Varied in history, church polity and aspects of doctrine, these churches share similar educational values, social justice commitments, and ecumenical and interfaith engagements. In education, they have a tradition of historical and critical reading of biblical authorities and church teachings. They value and engage scientific learning about the physical and social world. Active ecumenically, they do not claim exclusivity in theological knowledge.

The public social justice commitments of Christian faith are to public health, combating racism,

working for world peace, alleviating poverty, and advocating gender equality, including increasing equality in sexual orientation. Christians are open to working with governmental and other churches and organizations toward these common ends.

This progressive Christian movement has been of tremendous importance to the United States and the world. It founded a large number of education, health and social service institutions. Its long-standing practice of critical reflection on faith has helped it reinterpret tenets and traditions of the church in more just and fitting ways for changing times. Its commitments have made it a powerful force for greater justice in society.

Eden's vision responds to new challenges that call for the continued witness and wisdom of the progressive Christian movement in our day.



Director of Music Minister

Summer Choir, UCCSV's newest addition to its music ministry, is on to a good start. A time of fun, service and donuts, we meet each Sunday at 9:00 to prepare music for the 10:00 service. Summer Choir is a come-when-you-can choir and is open to all adults and teens. We sing from the hymnal as our main music resource. Please come and sing with us!

Music Ministry Wish List

The following are items needed for UCCSV's music ministry:

- Large (27"x35") portable double-sided dry erase easel
- Unit with cubby holes to store choir folders (these will probably need to be built by a carpenter)
- Coat rack or coat tree for choir loft
- YOU singing in the choir!

Please call me at the church office, or email me at dianemarazzi@aol.com if you can help with any of these items.

Thank you.
Director of Music Ministry

Friends with Wheels

If you need a ride to an appointment or to a church function in July, please call the church office at 301-540-3449 for the coordinator's name.. Advance notice is appreciated!

Friendly Notes from Fellowship Attention Ladies!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please save the date, Monday, August 30th. That will be "Ladies Night Out". Fellowship is bringing back the tradition of sharing dinner together in months with 5 Mondays. In the past it had always been an enjoyable evening of conversation and laughter. It's time to bring it back!

All women are invited and welcomed to include friends and neighbors as well. Specifics with regards to location and price will follow. Please plan on joining the group. Your presence is kindly requested.



Coffee Hour

Fellowship wants to extend a very special thanks to all who so generously give of their time and goodies on a Sunday morning during "Coffee Hour". The opportunity it offers to socialize is an important component to our life together at church.

Please help Fellowship defer the cost of the coffee, cream and paper products by dropping a small donation into the labeled receptacle next to the coffee urn. In the past, these items had all

been paid for by individuals who kindly volunteered to host. Fellowship has no budget. We want to change that so it's not a burden for anyone. We can easily cover these costs with consistent small donations dropped into the "can".

Fellowship thanks you in advance for your continued support. There's nothing like a good cup of coffee, a cookie and a friendly conversation after Sunday service.

Bible Readings for July

Sunday, July 4

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30 or

Isaiah 66:10-14

Psalm 66:1-9

Galatians 6(1-6), 7-16

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Surprising Prophets

Sunday, July 11

Amos 7:7-17

Psalm 82 or

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Psalm 25:1-10

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

Just Do It!

Sunday, July 18

Amos 8:1-12

Psalm 52 or

Genesis 18:1-10a

Psalm 15

Colossians 1:15-28

Luke 10:38-42

Word and Work

Sunday, July 25

Hosea 1:2-10

Psalm 85 or

Genesis 18:20-32

Psalm 138

Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)

Luke 11:1-13

Shaped by Prayer

Bold Print – Focus Scripture for Worship

Bible Readings for August

Sunday, August 1

Hosea 11:1-11

Psalms 107:1-9, 43 or

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Psalms 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

Soul Investment

Sunday, August 8

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Psalms 50:1-8, 22-23 or

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalms 33:12-22

Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Living Into the Promise

Sunday, August 15

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 or

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

Restore Us

Sunday, August 22

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6 or

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalms 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

Healing Reign

Sunday, August 29

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalms 81:1, 10-16 or

Sirach 10:12-18

Psalms 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Open Table

Regularly Scheduled Meetings at UCCSV by Outside Organizations/Churches:

First Tuesday of each month:

7:00-9:00p - 7th Day Adventists Church

Each Saturday: 8:00a-8:00p –

7th Day Adventists Church

Each Sunday: 8:00p – Alcoholics Anonymous

Resuming in September:

7:30p – Wednesdays, Girl Scouts

7:30p – Thursdays, Boy Scouts



UCCSV July Meetings and Events

Tuesday, July 6

7:00-9:00p – 7th Day Adventist Church (Narthex only)

Wednesday, July 7,8,9

No meetings scheduled

Saturday, July 10

9:00a – Adopt-A-Road

Sunday, July 11

10:00a – Worship

11:15a – Fellowship/Coffee Time

Noon-2:00p – New Member Class (Narthex)

6:00—8:30p – Vacation Bible School at Trinity United Methodist Church

Monday, July 12

10:30a – Staff meeting

6:00—8:30p – Vacation Bible School at Trinity United Methodist Church

7:00p – Deacons (Gathering Room)

7:30p – Social Actions (Narthex)

4

July 14

6:00—8:30p – Vacation Bible School at Trinity
United Methodist Church

July 15

6:00—8:30p – Vacation Bible School at Trinity
United Methodist Church

Sunday, July 18

10:00a – Worship
11:15a – Fellowship/Coffee Time
11:30a – Pulp Fiction Book Club (Youth Room)
Noon-2:00p – New Member Class (Narthex)

Monday, July 19

10:30a – Staff Meeting

Thursday, July 22

6:00p – Christian Education potluck and
conversation with parents

Saturday, July 24

9:00a – Council Retreat (Home of Christie
Holland)

Sunday, July 25

11:15a – Fellowship/Coffee Time
Noon-2:00p – New Member Class (Narthex)

**UCCSV August Meetings and Events
(as of Tuesday, July 5)**

Special Note:

August 8-14 – 7th Day Adventist Church – each
night from 7:00-9:00p

Monday, August 16

7:00p – Church Council

August 19, 20, 21 (Final details to be announced)
Community Based Shelter – UCCSV will prepare
meals

Mind, Body, Spirit will meet for their picnic and
final summer meditation on Tuesday, July 13.

So that they may plan accordingly please let them
know if you will be attending. All are welcome!

5