

The Seneca Valley Voice

The United Church of Christ of Seneca Valley
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Notes from the Moderator

Summer has been a time of recharging for the Trustees as we look forward to the new program year. We have plans for church building improvements as well as church life improvements.

We have begun the process of replacing our church's sign that faces Clopper Road. We believe that we need something larger than either of the two signs currently on the property to proudly display who we are and our hours for worship services. Ideally, we would like a sign that is lighted and that could be changed to announce special services. As you travel around the county over the next month, please take pictures of church signs that you like. We will post these pictures on the bulletin board outside the church office. These pictures will be very helpful to the Trustees as we narrow down what we need and want in a new sign for our church.

September 13 is Rally Day this year. Rally Day is when we get back together after a relaxing and revitalizing summer and look forward to the new program year. Stay posted for planned activities on that day. You may have noticed that we have begun a "rally" of sorts already this summer! We are beginning a series of Family Fun Nights. On July 19 Ruth Bulger hosted a potluck supper and movie night that was very well attended. (Thank you Ruth!) We will continue our series of fun with a campfire, s'mores roast and sing along on August 9. In September, we will be having a games night.

As we begin the new program year, we would like to spark some interest in new small groups. Some folks in the congregation have expressed an interest in getting together in a small group and learning something new or engaging in fellowship outside of the church. Some suggestions already made are: a knitting group, poker group and dinners for eight. Please be thinking about either something you would like to learn, or a skill you would like to share.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Emergency Assistance

UCCSV's Emergency Assistance Ministry has been swamped by requests. In June we helped twice as many families as we normally do in a typical month. At the present rate of helping those in need, we will run out of money well before the year is over.

The Shalom Church is out the first Sunday of each month. All donations go directly to help in the community. Through Emergency Assistance we are able to help with utilities, rent, eviction notices and prescriptions. We thank all members and friends for their continued support of this Ministry.



There will be a bake sale to benefit **Emergency Assistance** on Sunday, August 2, after worship. Please bring your baked goods, wrapped and priced, to the Gathering Room.

Equal exchange coffee, tea and chocolate will also be sold during that time.



PULP PILGRIMS

UCCSV's Pulp Pilgrims Book Group has not only been revived for the book lovers among us, but we are coming up on our first anniversary. We have a great time together sharing our thoughts and opinions which spark lively discussions and ***we welcome everyone to join us and bring book ideas.***

Our next book is ***The Time Traveler's Wife*** by Audrey Niffenegger. This is the celebrated tale of Henry DeTamble, an adventurous librarian who involuntarily travels through time, and Clare Abshire, an artist whose life takes a natural sequential course. Come read and see how their love endures, and is tested, across a sea of time.



Scripture Readings – August

Sunday, August 2 – Bread of Life

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalms 51:1-12 or Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalms 78:23-29

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

Sunday, August 9 – Shaping Community

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15:31-33

Psalms 130 or 1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalms 34:1-8

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

Sunday, August 16 – Wisdom Quest

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Psalms 111 or Proverbs 9:1-16

Psalms 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

Sunday, August 23 – Bread of Eternal Life

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43

Psalms 48 or Joshua 24:12a; 14-18

Psalms 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

UCC Passes Resolution to Support Universal Health Care Reform (H. R. 676)

On June 26, the Twenty-Seventh UCC General Synod passed a resolution calling for advocacy in support for Health Care For All, as in H. R. 676.

H. R. 676 (Improved and Expanded Medicare for All) is a bill introduced by Congressman John Conyers of Michigan to create a single-payer, publicly financed, privately delivered universal health care system. Its goal is to cover all Americans without charging co-pays or deductibles and guarantees access to the highest quality and most affordable healthcare services regardless of employment, ability to pay or pre-existing health conditions.

While the United Church of Christ is now on record as in support of this plan, and while we believe that H. R. 676 is the plan that best embraces the moral and justice imperatives to transform our broken health care system, we recognize that lawmakers are considering other plans for implementation. Therefore, the United Church of Christ will affirm its support for the inclusion of a robust public health option that includes the following principles: 1) Universal – it covers all persons; 2) Is affordable for all; 3) provides comprehensive benefits; 4) offers a choice of physicians and other health providers; 5) eliminates racial, ethnic and all other disparities for health care; and 6) waives pre-existing health conditions and does not further impose financial barriers to health care.

The United Church of Christ goes on record now in advocating for and supporting legislation to be passed by the fall of 2009 by the 111th Congress and its signing by the President of the United States which meets the above principles.

The President and Congress need to hear from you today! The House bill is expected to be completed by the end of July and the Senate will follow. Please call your lawmaker today and express the urgency that we need a strong public health option that includes the principles listed above. Call Toll Free TODAY! 1-888-797-8717.



Calendar of Events

Please watch weekly bulletins and the Spirit News for updates and changes

Sunday, August 2

11:30a – Pulp Pilgrims Book Club

Monday, August 10

7:00p – Deacons

Wednesday, August 12

3:00p - Worship Team

Friday, August 14

Campfire with songs, snacks (TBA)

Watch the Spirit News and Bulletins for more info

Monday, August 24

7:00p – Trustees

Tuesday, August 25

6:30p – Christian Education

Monday, August 31

7:00p – Pastoral Relations

Regularly Scheduled Meetings/Events

10:00a - Sunday Worship

8:30p – Sunday AA

7:30p – Thursdays – Boy Scouts

Every Saturday – 7th Day Adventists

September 28-October 4

Mandalas – Circles of Contemplation and Dialogue

You may find more info at www.ghostranch.org.