



September 17, 2023

Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ

*No matter who you are, or
Where you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here.*

Order of Worship

Prelude

Gathering & Greeting

Call to Worship

Joanne Kelly

***Hymn #276 (verses 1&2)**

We Gather Together

First Reading

Joanne Kelly

From *See No Stranger* | Valerie Kaur

The Lord's Prayer

Baptism

Elliott William Betts, child of Alanna & Daniel Betts

The Sending Song

Second Reading

Romans 12:2

Sermon

Rev. Kathy Dwyer

Worship Through Music

The Sanctuary Choir

Namaste | Mark Hayes

Prayers of the People

Giving from Gratitude

***Hymn**

Praise to the Living God

Sending Forth

Postlude

The Call to Worship was written by Rev. Amber Neuroth and the Doxology was written by Rev. Mary Luti. | Today's flowers are given by the Swaim-Shollenberger family, remembering with gratitude and love Rev. Norman and Mrs. Virginia Kern Shollenberger in the month of their marriage almost 90 years ago. | Next week's scripture is Matthew 20:29-34.

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Announcements

Today @ Rock Spring

10:00 a.m. – Worship & Sunday School

11:15 a.m. – Choristers

11:30 a.m. – High School YoRS

View the complete calendar of events [here](#).

Be Curious: Continuing the Conversation

Mondays, Sept. 18 & 25, Oct. 2, 16, 23, & 30

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. [via Zoom](#)

Our fall sermon series has been developed in collaboration with Hope UCC (Alexandria) and UCC of Seneca Valley. On Monday evenings, we will Continue the Conversation together. Join us!

Curious About Membership?

Today, September 17, 11:00 a.m. (in person)

Monday, September 18, 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom)

Join Kathy Dwyer in person today at the Kusler family home (3215 N Columbus Street – less than 1 block from the church) or online tomorrow to talk about the United Church of Christ, Rock Spring's history, present, and future, and meet some others who are new to Rock Spring. For Zoom link, RSVP to [Kathy](#).

Faith Formation for Children and Youth

We have 3 **Sunday School classes** for children PreK-5th Grade: Seeds (a play-based class, Room 105), Sprouts (an activity-based class, Room 206), and Roots (a discussion-based class, Room 204). **High School Youth of Rock Spring (YoRS)** meets today at 11:30 a.m. in the Carpenter Hall Youth Room. Middler YoRS (Grades 6-8) meets next Sunday directly after the Time for All Ages. If you are new to Rock Spring, Sunday School, or YoRS, please [complete a registration form](#).

3rd & 4th Grade Bible Presentations

If you have a child in those grades and have not already heard from [Hannah Sachs](#), please email her so that we can be sure they are included when we present Bibles on October 15.

Crip Camp Documentary

Sept. 23, 6:00 p.m. (Showing)

Sept. 24, 7:00 p.m. (Discussion)

Watch together – or stream online at your convenience – this award-winning film about the transformative experience of a unique summer camp and the origins of the disability rights movement, then join us to consider how the film's perspective impacts our understanding of Biblical depictions of disability and healing.

Men's Weekend Registration Open

Men of Rock Spring will gather October 14-15 at Missionhurst Retreat Center in Arlington for their inaugural Men's Weekend of fun, fellowship, and discussion. Spaces are limited. [See details and register here](#).

Stream Cleanup

Sunday, September 24, Noon

Join us at Jennie Dean Park in Shirlington for the 6th Annual [GAP Stream Cleanup](#)! This all-ages event will include opportunities to get into the water or to walk alongside it as we collect trash and beautify the area.

Sanctuary Flowers

We have a few dates available this fall to donate Sanctuary flowers – including next Sunday, Sept. 24! Sign up [here](#).

Save The Dates! Details on the [calendar](#):

Sept. 18 – *Be Curious: Continuing the Conversation*

Sept. 23 & 24 – *Crip Camp* Movie & Discussion

Sept. 24 – Stream Cleanup

Oct. 1 – World Communion Sunday;

Intergenerational Bread Baking; Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 8 – Welcoming the Stranger Refugee Event

Oct. 14-15 – Men's Weekend Event

Oct. 15 – Heritage Sunday & Bible Presentations

Oct. 21 – Arlington CROP Walk

Oct. 22 – Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing



Rock Spring

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