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Seneca United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Zayzay G. Kpadeh
196 East State Road
Seneca, PA 16346

OFFICE HOURS
9 a.m. – Noon, Monday thru Friday
Pastor Zayzay's Hours 9 a.m. – Noon, Monday thru Friday

Sunday Events:
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.

Website

www.senecaumc.org



Email

sumchurch16346@gmail.com



Seneca United Methodist Church

From the Pastor's Desk-Seneca UMC.

March 16, 2021


Dear Beloved,

Greetings to you all from Seneca. I pray that this communication finds you in a good spirit, and prayerfully strengthens you during these difficult times. As we enter the Easter Season, it is my hope and prayer that God will continue to strengthen each and every one of us during this year as we perhaps turn the corner on this deadly pandemic. If there is anything this pandemic has taught us, is that we must continue to hold together in the spirit of Christian fellowship and community solidarity. We need to continue good and safe practices that health authorities and scientist have recommended under the banner and canopy of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) about pandemic mitigation and safety control for all of us during these challenging times.

It is pleasing to report that tremendous progress is being made in the country. Just recently the Johnson and Johnson vaccines with a 85% efficacy was approved by the FDA and is now a part of the three vaccines that are on the market. The good news is that these vaccines are absolutely accessible to every resident of this country on a free basis. It is free for all of us to take. I will encourage you to sign up to take it when it is your turn. Prayerfully you all will take advantage of the opportunity to take any of these vaccines—the Johnson& Johnson vaccine, which is a one dose vaccine. The Moderna and the Pfizer vaccines are two shots vaccines with a 28 and 21 days interval between the first and the second shots. I recently completed the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine. We were granted the opportunity as ministers in the area to take the vaccine. Ours were administered under the auspices of UPMC Northwest in Seneca.

More recently, we have learned of another competitor seeking FDA permission to come into the American market—Astrazeneca. If approved by the FDA, this will make 4 vaccines on the American market. These are all wonderful developments aimed at curtailing this deadly pandemic in creating some level of normalcy for all of us. This is good news. This is good news because it is revelatory in scripture that God is assuring us of a new day that is set on the horizon. The Prophet Jeremiah reminds us in Jeremiah 29:11 that, “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (**Jeremiah 29:11**). There is hope for a better future for all of us not only here at Seneca UMC, but the entire United States of America. Let’s hold onto that promise of hope in marching towards a better day for our community and congregation. The Bible said it. Let’s believe it. On a final vaccine note, it has now been confirmed in the US that Moderna has begun trials for young children from ages 12-six months old. This is a fascinating news for mothers and parents of school aged children. This, when successful, will bring a genuine relief for all of us. It appears we are heading in the right direction. Let us keep hope alive for a better day to come. In another development, I want to let you know that we are still worshiping at the Seneca United Methodist Church. Our service time has changed since last September. The current worship time is 10:00am for our regular Sunday service. Our Sunday School has also slightly changed in time from the previous schedule at 9:30am to 9:00am. Our regular weekly midweek Bible study is still on the same time at 7pm. We are meeting on zoom due to the covid 19 situation. If you have interest in participating, please contact pastor Zayzay at the church or Josie our church secretary for further details regarding participation. On another note, our weekly correspondence to members who are not able to attend service, is still current. Family members interested in getting a copy of my sermon and are currently not on our mailing list, are encouraged to make contact with Josie, our able secretary, to be included. We will be more than glad to have you included on the mailing or email list. We are still corresponding on a weekly basis with our members who are unable to come to church at the moment due to the pandemic. Let me use this opportunity to thank you for your genuine commitment in service to this community and the church in general. I would also like to thank you for your tithes and offerings. Despite the pandemic, you have generously contributed towards the upkeep of the church and our ministries here at Seneca UMC. Your generosity is highly appreciated.

Blessings for a joyous Lenten Season and prayerful wishes for a blessed Easter.

Pastor Zayzay 

Newsletter for Spring

Missions:

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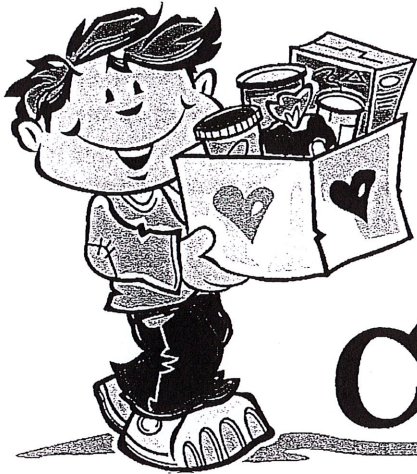
Updates on Electronic Giving

Stewardship remains an educational and spiritual issue for many congregation—our congregation is not the exception. God has told us that all that we have is His. Psalm reminds us that: “the earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. Psalm 24:1(The New Living Translation). In 2019, the Finance Committee decided that we should only accept ACH payments from checking accounts, savings accounts, and debit card payments. We are aware that some families/individuals struggle with credit debt so we wanted to be sure that a person’s desire to give does not raise issues with their ability to give to God. There is no special time to give to God. God is the instrument and the protector of our lives. He is also the one who give and give abundantly to us. The Finance Committee resolutely sees our stewardship and giving as a part of our spiritual practice as a Christian and we want to remind you through this medium of communication to seek reference from God through prayer and supplication about your giving habits and potentials. This is truly not about telling you what schedule you need to set in giving on the online account. This is not about setting your profile to a weekly/monthly gift amount and then just forgetting about it. The Committee still wants you to be thinking about the thanksgiving with each gift given and consider with prayer each and every day that passes what God has done for you during this pandemic and what you can do in return to uplift God’s ministry on earth. The online giving process is quite simple. On our website at Seneca UMC, senecaumc.org, there are buttons that you can click on that will take you to the supported webpage. On the website you can log in and set up your personal profile for tracking and adjusting your giving. The funds you can support are set up in an orderly manner just as they reflected on the giving envelope issued by the congregation. You can choose which funds to support, what amounts, and the frequency of your gift. You can also go in at any anytime at will and make adjustments to future donations or contributions. It is however important to stress here that there is costs involved with the processing of these tithes and gifts. The costs however is much smaller with ACH gifts and tithes from checking and savings accounts. For instance, if giving by debit card, on the second page in the processing there is a check box where you can choose to pay the 2.75% processing fee for church if you so desire. This is the same for recurring—either weekly or monthly gifts as well as for single onetime gifts. Meanwhile, you will continue to receive giving statements from our Financial Secretary on a regular basis as you do now. In addition to the website, some of you may choose to download the “Give+” app for their mobile

device. This app works in much the similar manner, and if you have profile established from the website, you can manage giving as well. The “Give+” app has search engine feature available so you can search and identify churches in your that are using the app. You can give even when you are on vacation or traveling. You can give at giving time when you see a need or you feel God is calling on you to gift to a specific appeal or mission project. Meanwhile, in a recent developmental news, our hardworking financial Treasurer Peggy Allaman took a leave of absence. We want to use this occasion to say a big thank you to Peggy Allaman for her generosity in service to our church and community in general. Peggy has been an incredible instrument of change in ensuring that we are financially solvent up to the time of transition. During her tenure, we were able to meet up with our regulatory and budgetary reports on time. For this, we will ever continue to be grateful to her for her service and wish her the very best in her career pursuits in other areas of ministry within the church. We want to welcome Cynthia Comiske as our new Treasurer. In this new year, we have resolved to extend our mission efforts overseas in Africa and other parts of the world. The Church Council recently agreed in principle and subsequently voted to begin a television evangelistic broadcast in Liberia. This ministry is under the auspices of the Missions Committee. We are counting on your generous gifts and support in executing this call of God. In execution of this spiritual mandate, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Seneca United Methodist Church and Infinity Corporation/Power TV. Details of this agreement is attached to this newsletter for your perusal and acquiescence. We hope that the information provided here has been helpful in making your giving faithful and this service will be a blessing for everyone. If you have questions do not hesitate to speak with Cynthia Comiske or Pastor Zayzay regarding tithing and gifts to God.

SENECA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

	Income/Expense Summary as of 03/17/21			
	2021 Budget	Income	Expense	
Current Fund	\$ 202,288.00	\$ 35,122.08	\$ 29,925.13	
Mission Share (Appor)	\$ 26,659.00	\$ 1,358.00	\$ 1,640.00	
Local Mission Fund	\$ 17,350.00	\$ 4,219.83	\$ 9,755.35	
Trustees Fund	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,053.50	\$ 417.72	
Totals	\$ 256,297.00	\$ 42,753.41	\$ 41,738.20	\$ -
Building Fund	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,753.00		



Food Collection

NEWS FROM CRANBERRY AREA FOOD PANTRY

Update for the Food Pantry

We have been doing drive thru distribution days which have gone well. Due to most volunteers and many client vaccinations we will do our regular walk-in distributions on March 22. Masks and social distancing will continue.

Our numbers were fairly good for the holidays, with Nov., 2020 – 306 families and Dec. at 328 families. The number of families for 2020 were 3,610 served.

January of 2021 was 261 and February 2021 was 246. Numbers were down because of bad weather and Covid. In March our numbers increased 20%. I'm sure our numbers will increase with everything opening back up.

I need to thank the many food donations that came in. Cranberry Cub Scout Troup 111 gave a large donation from a drive they had, so thank you to all the scouts and parents who support us. Many times we don't know who donated food that comes in, so thank you for supporting the pantry.

Our volunteers have been wonderful in their continued attendance on the special days that we need them. Please note with opening back up we need a few more volunteers, so please, if you have a desire to help, please join us.

Call me (Janet Shaw at 673-4554 for more information.

Thank you....

Janet Shaw, CAFP



Thank You Note

*Greeting in the name of the Lord. We pray
That you are all doing well. We trust you have had
A good start to the new year in spite of all the
Challenges this Covid virus has brought us.
We want to thank you so very much for the
Recent gift you sent for our ministry. We really
Appreciate it. It is because of churches like yours
That we have been able to keep serving with OMS
Over the years. Thank you so very much!!
It would be great to get back sometime to the
Church to share on our ministry. Maybe we can
Make that happen sometime in the future.
May the Lord richly bless you and use your
Church to advance His Kingdom.*

Tim and Nancy Bell

Letter from Luella and Jim Kreiger

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We were both so excited and blessed to hear from you. Thank you for helping us along in this time that is more than a little challenging. We are settled into Kerry's home. It is good to be here with her boys and with the folks in this town that loved her so much.

We are in the middle of a number of projects in the house. We have done many things over the years but there were many things that were beyond our means. We are using some of Kerry's life insurance money to do the improvements that are so overdue!

We do plan to be on the road doing some ministry as soon the pandemic loosens it's grip. We won't be as busy as we have been what with a house to care for and the fact that we ain't as young as we used to be!

We do pray that you will be able to have your tea come December and we will be there with bells on. Thank you again for loving us!

Love, Jim and Luella

Evangelism Team News

For the past year, we have been on a journey together to pray for our "One" and although this year has wrapped up, we encourage you to continue on this path....keep praying for your "One" and maybe adopt someone new to keep in your daily prayers to begin or deepen their relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. We thank you for your participation and dedication and hope you have found encouragement in your own walk.

As in past years, the Evangelism Team plans to continue doing outreach through providing bags and school supplies to children in the community when they return to school in the fall. So, if you are out shopping and see some deals on school items, please pick them up as we will be collecting donations to fill the bags. Also, we will be sending gift boxes to military personnel before Thanksgiving. We will let you closer to that time what items you can help us provide.

We have a couple of other projects in mind that we hope to do as outreach and so we ask that you pray with us that we will be able to accomplish God's work as our community opens back up from this year of pandemic.

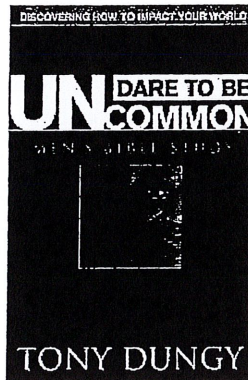
Our newest thing to begin very soon is the presence of a "Prodigal Box". One of our members heard about this idea on AFR, and we researched it and think it is a wonderful opportunity. In a nutshell, we plan to have a box available for folks to put concerns of their hearts on a notecard and into the box of a person in their life that has drifted from their faith walk.....much like the story of the Prodigal Son. The circumstances of the cards will remain anonymous but will be lifted up in prayer by a team of prayer warriors. More information will be coming soon regarding the box.

Thanks so much for your faithfulness in helping us as we work to reach people of our faith family and folks outside our walls!

Sincerely,
Darla Creighton

MENS BIBLE STUDY

We are meeting every Monday night at 7:00 PM in the Builders Classroom. We are currently following a study called "Dare to Be Uncommon" by Tony Dungy. We also are planning monthly outings of fellowship and/or community outreach. Guys, if you are looking to deepen your faith and join in on some good discussion, please consider attending! If you should have any questions, please call Brian at 671-8324.



LADIES BIBLE STUDY

We are meeting every other Monday night at 6:00 PM in the Library. On Monday, March 22nd, we are beginning a new video study called "Better, a Study of Hebrews" by Jen Wilkin. Jen's passion is to see others become articulate and committed followers of Christ, with a clear understanding of why they believe what they believe, grounded in the Word of God. We would love for you to join us! If you should have any questions, please call Darla at 671-4236.



TV EVANGELISM COMES TO SENECA UMC

Seneca United Methodist Church begins another milestone in outreach efforts aimed propagating the good news of Jesus Christ. In this new dispensation, the church universal is challenged to carry out its mandate and teachings to the world. One of the pivotal mandates that Christ left with His disciples was to take on the task of the Great Commission reflected in Matthew 28. It is the ethical and spiritual mandate of Christ for all believers to go out into the world to preach and teach the good news. We want to let the World know about Jesus and His mission to the world. In this evangelistic spirit, Seneca United Methodist Church has finally reached an agreement with a national television station in the Liberian capital of Monrovia for the airing of an evangelistic ministry telecast under the auspices of the Mission Committee of our church. A joint Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was recently signed between the Infinity Corporation and Power TV. The signing ceremonies took place between the management of Infinity Corporation and Power FM TV and Seneca United Methodist Church. Signing for and on behalf of Infinity Corporation and Power FM TV was its President and CEO, Mr. Aaron B. Kollie and Mr. Dave Grau, Finance Chair of the Finance Committee for Seneca United Methodist Church. The airing of a television telecast from Seneca UMC will officially commence in the first week of April of 2021. The prime television series is booked for 9pm every Sunday, Liberian Standard Time (LST), five hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). The first phase of the evangelistic project under the auspices of the Missions Committee is expected to last for six months. The production is expected to be an hour production broadcasting to a population of more than 5 million people throughout the country. The telecast has a coverage area of more than 2.5 million people in the Liberian capital. The second phase reaches more 3.4 million people on a satellite platform under a satellite platform called Satcon—a satellite cable television provider that provides a cable TV set up for the entire country. The cost for an hour production is \$125.00 per a weekly episode. It is our prayer and humble submission that you will join us in this endeavor to execute the great mandate of the Great Commission found in the Book of Matthew. In Matthew 28, Jesus admonished all believers and followers of His to go out into the world to preach and teach the good news that Jesus is Lord. That He is the great messiah who suffered, bled and died for the sins of the world. "Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28: 19, 20). We are called to make disciples of all nations. It is our hope and prayer that you will join us in this evangelistic endeavor to win hearts and minds for Christ. Your donation for all mission initiatives is a welcome development. Donations are accepted through both platforms—online and through physical checks. In the interest of full disclosure, we have attached the Memorandum of Understanding to this newsletter for your reading pleasure and genuine acquiescence. Thanks so kindly for your generosity.

Message from Finance Committee

We have just added another way for our members and friends to give their offerings when circumstances prevent regular attendance. Through our Vanco partner we are able to offer Text Giving, a secure way to provide your gift from your phone. Save the number, 1-844-706-0584 to your phone. Text a dollar amount. You will receive a response that walks you through the registration process. It is similar to the on-line procedure linked to our website. You may direct your gift to a specific fund and make it a one time offering or set it up as a recurring gift.

Thanks to all for your continued support of our missions and ministry.

Dave Grau, Finance Chair

Newsletter for Spring

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Memorandum of Understanding

Between

(Seneca United Methodist Church

And

~~Infinity Corporation (Power FM/TV)~~

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MoU") is made and entered into on the 5th day of March 2021 (hereinafter referred to as "Effective Date") by and between the **Seneca United Methodist Church (SMUC)** and **Infinity Corporation (Power FM/ Television)** of Liberia, West Africa . The SMUC and Infinity Television shall hereinafter be individually referred to as "Party" and collectively as "Parties".

Purpose of the MOU

Now therefore, the purpose of this MoU is to formalize an agreement between the parties for the **broadcast** of approved messages in the form of announcements, press releases, radio dramas, jingles, and of hosting of weekly telecast of its Sunday worship service tagged "**The Seneca United Methodist Hour**" for the Seneca United Methodist Church.

Title:

This MoU is titled "Partnership To Support Mutual Interests Between Infinity Television & The Seneca United Methodist Church."

Duties and responsibilities of the parties:

Infinity Corporation (Power FM/TV)

- Shall broadcast all announcements, press releases, jingles, and dramas for **SUMC**, save for any publication material that undermines the editorial credibility or has the ability to injure the reputation of Infinity Television. In such instance, Infinity TV shall formally communicate with SUMC, outlining reasons why said publication cannot be aired.
- Shall produce and air promotional jingles, documentaries to showcase the many spiritual interventions and ministry outreach of the Seneca United Methodist Church to the people of Liberia from the United States.

- Shall host a weekly telecast tagged “The Seneca United Methodist Hour”, every Sunday, 9:00pm Liberian time where the Sunday Service from **SUMC** in the United States will be rebroadcast on Infinity TV in the Liberian capital of Monrovia as an outreach ministry effort aimed at reaching the hearts and minds of millions of Liberians.

Seneca United Methodist Church

- Shall provide the approved scripts for jingles, dramas, announcements, and press releases to be aired.
- Shall obtain evidence of work from Infinity TV including copy of the recording of drama, jingle and talk show.
- Shall provide logistical support to Infinity TV to include but not limited to bilateral corporation, and manpower development, as it may afford to do so.
- Shall pay a monthly amount of US\$ 500 at \$125 a week. The payment shall be may between the 1st and 10th of every month through a designated money transfer service as may be agreed upon by both parties—preferably a bank transfer.

Duration

The agreement takes effect as of the date of signature and shall last for 6 months with the possibility of extension through mutual and formal consent by both parties.

Termination

This MOU reflects an entirely voluntary commitment between the parties. It may be modified or terminated at-will through mutual consent by the parties done by their authorized representatives.

This MOU in no way obligates or restricts the activity of any party. No party shall have any right, power, or authority to create any obligation expressed on behalf of the other.

Any conflict arising can be settled peacefully or forwarded for redress as per provision provided by the laws of the Republic of Liberia.

Signature:

Infinity Corporation (Power FM/TV

Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa

Name of Representative: Aaron B. Kollie Signature: *Allie*

Aaron B. Kollie, Executive Director

Date: March 3, 2021

Telephone +231886518418



Witness:

Name: Jerome Patrick Signature: Jerome Patrick

Date: March 3, 2021

The Seneca United Methodist Church
196 East State Road, Seneca, PA 16346

Name of Representative: DAVID R GRAU Finance Chair
Signature: David R Grau

Date: 3-7-21

Witness:

Name Michael D McKain
Signature: Michael D McKain

Date: 3/7/21
Telephone 814-676-1759

Witness:

Name: Jerome Patrick Signature: Jerome Patrick

Date: March 3, 2021

**The Seneca United Methodist Church
196 East State Road, Seneca, PA 16346**

Name of Representative: DAVID R GRAU Finance Chair
Signature: David R Grau

Date: 3-7-21

Witness:

Name Michael D McKain
Signature: Michael D McKain

Date: 3/7/21
Telephone 814-676-1759