



April 22, 2018

## PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN WORSHIP MUSIC WORKSHOP

- Featuring Rev. Bryan Sirchio



**Saturday, May 5, 2018 / 9 am—3 pm**

**\$35.00 (lunch included)**

**@ New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Rd. , East Greenville,**

**\$30 each for multiple individuals from the same church!**

**Register at: [psecsirchio.eventbrite.com](http://psecsirchio.eventbrite.com)**



## Havertown church's Pet Therapy featured by UCC

St. James UCC, Havertown, has a thriving **pet therapy program** for elementary schoolers learning to read and a visitation program for seniors with intellectual disabilities. The program was lifted up by United Church of Christ News last week as an example of a "3 Great Loves" ministry.

Read "Pennsylvania congregation's Pet Therapy program is perfect 3 Great Loves ministry" on the PSEC Website, [psec.org](http://psec.org).



## Resources: Opioid Epidemic Practical Toolkit

The PSEC website features a Resource library, with helpful materials for church leaders, pastors, volunteers, retirees... The most recent item posted was an "Opioid Epidemic Practical Toolkit." The Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnership, under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, released the resource, which provides a simple, but proven, list of actions churches can take to make a difference in their communities' fight to end drug addiction.

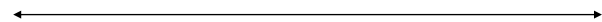
**"Americans of faith have taken a leading role in the compassionate approach we need to take on this [opioid] crisis, and we're eager to support their work, however we can."**—  
*Secretary Alex M. Azar, II, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

On average, 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose. In 2016, over 11 million Americans misused prescription opioids, nearly one million used heroin, and 2.1 million had an opioid-use disorder due to prescription opioids or heroin.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recognizes that faith-based and community partners eagerly and willingly step in to meet the needs of their colleagues, friends and neighbors, especially during times of emergency and distress.

That's why HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships (also known as "The Partnership Center") created this Practical Toolkit for faith-based and community leaders. We want our partners to be able to respond to the current opioid health crisis — complementing their compassion and local understanding with the expertise of HHS.

We hope this toolkit is helpful in jump-starting or advancing your efforts to usher in a culture of compassion toward those who are struggling with addiction, and its often severe consequences.



To browse the PSEC Resource Library, visit [psec.org/resources](http://psec.org/resources) and use the search bar on the right, select a "Resources Category" to browse, or scroll down to see what's been added recently.