

WUU *news*

Monthly Newsletter of Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists



2016

Some Dates of Note

3.3

Navigators Monthly Meeting

3.7

Co-op Housing Discussion

3.16

Book Discussion Group

3.17

Leadership Team Meeting

3.20

Café Conversation-Pathway to Membership

3.27

Easter Egg Hunt

Words from Rev. David A. Johnson, Interim Minister

Interim Minister's Letter: "Under-writing Our Values"

I am very proud to be part of WUU's Stewardship Team. Our goal is straightforward: we seek participation from every person who has any involvement / investment in our congregation's activities, and who supports our principles and values. Our goal is 100 percent participation – regardless of whether you are a voting member, a member, a friend, or a casual acquaintance. If you have any stake in WUU's health and well-being as a voice in greater Williamsburg, your expression of support will make a difference as we move ahead.

Honoring time constraints I omitted some prepared remarks from my sermon on Stewardship Sunday. Because of my commitment to this congregation, and to the values which we share, I would like to include here a few encouragements, as you consider your pledge to WUU for the coming year:

We are at a turning point in re-energizing this congregation, and in underwriting our values. If ever the voices of our UU faith are needed amidst the landscapes of political bullying and religious extremism, now is surely such a time. In what ways would your life be impoverished if WUU were not here?

As our stewardship campaign moves through the coming weeks, here's my invitation: In your conversations during coffee hour and in small-groups, consider these questions:

- 1) "What's your passion? What do you care most deeply about?"
- 2) "Tell me about a time when you were at your best."

Why these questions? Because each of us, like sunflowers, re-aligns toward positive energy. Whatever we turn toward will determine what we shall become. The "reality" of this congregation, and of every community, is continually re-shaped by what folks dream about, align toward, and celebrate. "Reality" is not a set of objective, un-changing facts. Reality is ever-evolving inter-dependent relationships; it is a verb more than a noun. Reality unfolds in the midst of -- and through -- every family's energy fields and shared visions.

Continued on next page



Interim Minister's Letter Continued

Those are my two suggested questions for dialogue during the coming month. In return, we in leadership roles promise to devote our best energies:

1. To hear and value what you care most deeply about.
2. To be alert for others at WUU whose passions are aligned with yours.
3. To seek meaningful opportunities where your passions can make a difference.
4. To provide you with resources to build effective teams.
5. To offer you encouragement when the going gets rough.
6. When your work ends, to thank you and celebrate your accomplishments.

That's my promise-One that I confidently make on behalf of all those in leadership roles at WUU. Tell us, "What's Your Passion?" In return, we will help translate your passions into meaningful action. Notice that I haven't said, "Please pledge generously". I haven't said this because I don't need to. For whenever passion and enthusiasm are there, the energy and the money will be there. This is the subtle difference between Finance and Stewardship – both of which are important -- but their focus is somewhat different. Finance asks the question, "How shall we make the numbers add up?" Stewardship asks: "What's your passion?"

"Saddle your dreams before you ride them," wrote Howard Thurman. That, my friends, is our task in the coming weeks. Stewardship means saddling our dreams: Energizing and underwriting that which matters most. Such actions bring us face to face with what Thurman calls "the hard facts of the world, before we can ride them off among the stars."

All good wishes, as the splendor of spring emerges from wintry hibernation.

Rev. Dave Johnson, Interim Minister (2015-2017)

Share the Plate



On Sunday, March 13, our Share the Plate Program will donate the plate collection to Navigators USA Chapter 36, which is sponsored by our congregation.

Navigators USA is a nationwide scouting organization committed to providing a quality scouting experience open to all children and their families, regardless of gender, race, religion, economic status, sexual orientation or social background. Since 2013, Chapter 36 has been working to provide a modern inclusive scouting program for families in the Williamsburg community. WUU's support has made it possible for area youth, including the children of this congregation, to explore the great outdoors through campouts, hikes, rock climbing adventures and many other activities. The group meets in Fahs House on the first Thursday of the month from 6:30-7:30, and also conducts monthly outdoor excursions. For more information, please contact: Dan Moore; danartmo@yahoo.com, Greg Caldwell; greg.caldwell@cox.net, or David Benson davidbenson@cox.net

For information on the Share the Plate Program or to nominate a recipient, please email STP at stp@wuu.org.

March Worship Schedule

REMINDER: During March and April the early service will begin at 9:45 AM.

March 6, 2016

9:45 am & 11:15 am

Rev. David Johnson

“What We Are Hearing and Discerning”

As a follow-up to the congregational workshop from Saturday January 30, the Transition Team will offer observations and interpretations of what they have heard from congregants on the topic: “The Best of Who We Are”. The purpose is to discern the most essential values and cultural norms of WUU, as well as those preferred ways of being together which may be open to revision and re-shaping for a newly-unfolding context. Following the second service, Transition Team members will host a brief café conversation for those who wish to continue the dialogue.

March 13, 2016

9:45 am & 11:15 am

Rev. David Johnson

“The Impossible Will Take a Little While”

“Empires may be born by force,” writes former UUA President Bill Schulz, “but they are not long sustained by it. They are sustained by a capacity to peddle a better idea and to practice what you preach, to resolve conflicts equitably.” Biology does not condemn humanity to adversarial combat. How might we shift the emphasis from “survival of the fittest” to altruism and cooperation? What are some of the success stories – from multiple ages and cultures?

March 20, 2016

11:15 am-One Service Only

Led by WUU High School Youth

“Joy”

Come one, come all!

The High School Youth will be leading the entire worship service at 11:15 AM based on the theme of joy. Come support our youth and leave with a buoyant heart.

March 27, 2016

11:15 am-One Service Only

Rev. Dave Johnson

“Upsy-Daisy:

Of Rolling Stones and Empty Tombs”

On “this joyful Eastertide” our program staff team (Austen, Jamie, Dave Robbins, and Rev. Dave) will bring multi-generational voices expressing the breaking forth of eggs-citement, joy, and amazement. The service will end at 12 noon, as the Easter-egg-hunt unfolds. Rev. Dave’s brief message asks the question: What experiences of spiritual deadness have held you captive? What decisive actions have you taken to roll away the stones, and move into the light?



EASTER SUNDAY EASTER EGG HUNT!

On March 27, there will be on service at 11:15 a.m., which will end at 12:00 noon.

Children ages preschool through fifth grade are invited to gather at FAHS HOUSE at 12:15 p.m. to form two teams for WUU’s annual Easter Egg Hunt. WUU will provide plastic eggs with wrapped candy inside (no nuts) to ensure the integrity of the ingredients. Children are welcome to bring their own Easter baskets to use to collect their eggs.

Owing to construction on the grounds around the Sanctuary, this year’s egg hunt will be held in the Fahs House playground (for the younger children) and for the older kids, in the area around Parker House, where boundaries will be clearly marked.

Greetings From Your Board President

FEBRUARY -- Valentine's Day, President's Day, Black History Month, tornadoes flying about, snowstorms!

And -- within our WUU campus --

- Received good news and some not so good news of our WUU family members
- Rev. David Johnson asked by a unanimous vote of the Board to remain as Interim Minister
- News received that DRE Austen Petersen will complete her DRE credentialing process in April and, from what I understand, become the only credentialed DRE in this part of Virginia; the Board unanimously agreed to compensate her accordingly
- The building began to take shape with sidewalks -- and stayed within budget
- The Progressive Therapy Learning center of Fahs made plans to find a home of their own within the coming months
- The Nominating Committee received many suggestions for possible Ministerial Search Committee nominations
- The Finance Committee began to put next year's budget together
- The Stewardship Canvass got underway, with lots of enthusiasm throughout the congregation
- The Alternative Income Sources Task Force began to develop a policy about WUU's raising funds from outside sources; the draft policy will go to the Board next month
- Last weekend's Compensation Workshop, led by Bob Day, a UUA Compensation Consultant from Nashville, considered appropriate compensation for our extraordinary, dedicated staff and what is reasonable to expect for staffing in the future. Such a workshop was highly recommended as part of the Interim Ministry period's preparation for a new settled minister.

Now what in March?

- The Nominating Committee with two Board members will prepare a slate of ten nominees for the seven positions on the Ministerial Search Committee. The Congregation will be notified of that slate near the end of the month.
- Work on the budget will continue.
- The Stewardship Canvass will wrap up. Make sure to get your pledge turned in so that we can maintain our wonderful staff, teach our children, go into the outside world with our message, make the best use possible of our new space, and, of course, entice the very best ministerial candidates to WUU. There are so many exciting plans in the works. Let's make sure they happen.
- The Board and Rev. David Johnson will evaluate the first six months of this Interim Ministry period and send the results to the UUA Transitions Office. Such a report will be completed again in August or September and then again at the end of the Interim period.
- Using information from the Compensation Workshop, the Board will begin to consider positions that are recommended or seen as needed in WUU: Membership Director, Alternative Fundraising Coordinator/Manager, Facilities Manager, etc. Some issues that will be considered: How to incorporate these needs with our tight budget and the size of our congregation. What responsibilities would these positions include? How would these positions be impacted if volunteers were to take them? Where would such positions, if volunteer, fit in the WUU governance structure?

As always, you are most welcome to attend the Board meetings. Just let me know that you will be there so I can put enough chairs around the table. The Board will next meet on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 (SPRING WILL JUST HAVE SPRUNG!) promptly at 7:00 pm in Fahs. Email me at: president@wuu.org or the entire Board at board@wuu.org.

Happy Winter's Ending, Happy Vernal Equinox, Happy St. Patrick's Day, Happy Easter -- however and whatever you celebrate, may March find you well and at peace.

Lola Warren



WORKSHOPS FOR IMAGINATIVE THINKING -- AND FUN!

“I Need More Adroit!”

Mondays, 5:30 to 6:40 pm, Parker House
March 07, 14

What circumstances sometimes drive you crazy? When you feel trapped, confronted, or paralyzed by events that are beyond your control, what are the options for re-claiming and strengthening “the best of who you are”? How might the qualities of resilience, agility, and adaptive responsiveness be fostered in our individual and relational lives? These are among the questions which we will explore in this series of conversations based on Rabbi Edwin Friedman’s consultations with Unitarian Universalist lay leaders. We will include supplementary readings from Friedman’s unpublished memoirs.

“Listening to Experience: Breakthrough Congregations & Ministries”

Wednesdays, 12 noon to 1:10 pm, Parker House
March 02, 09, 16, 23

What insights might we draw from the experiences of other UU congregations? What have several of the most skilled UU ministers observed – in 20-20 hindsight – as the factors which have been most crucial in fostering congregational vitality? These are among the questions we will consider with case-study examples from “Breakthrough Congregations”, and from conversations with twelve of the most skilled (and highly-acclaimed) UU ministers.

“Of Bonds and Binds: Fables for Our Time”

Wednesdays, 6:15 to 7:20 pm, Parker House

Come join us for this exploration of intriguing fables by Rabbi Edwin Friedman. Remaining dates and topics in the series are:

Wed 02 Mar	“The Wallflower”
Wed 16 Mar	“Panic”
Wed 30 Mar	“Burnout”
Wed 06 April	“Narcissus”
Wed 13 April	“Tradition”
Wed 20 April	“The People of the Charm” (by Rev. Peter Steinke)

Visit UUF in Newport News with WUU Cluster Sunday Travelers on March 13



Join other travelers from WUU on March 13 as they pay a visit to UUF in Newport News, attend the Sunday service, and join them for lunch after the service. This is the first of six Sundays this year that we will pay a visit to one of the other UU congregations in the Tidewater Cluster. Every other month we’ll visit one of the congregations for a Sunday service. We’ll contact the congregation to let them know we’re coming, ask them to invite folks to join us for lunch afterwards, and suggest a reasonably-priced place to eat that would have room for us. No agenda, just a way to build and strengthen connections within the Cluster. Come as often as you like. If you would like to join us on 3/15 or want more information, please contact David Wilcox at dwilcox@vims.edu or 804/832-6715.

WALT Spring Registration Now Open



WALT is a community outreach program of the WUU and encourages people in our community to share with each other through an assortment of unique classes. Try Something New - WALT offers more than 65 different classes led by people in the community who have a talent or interest that they want to share with others. All classes

encourage learning for fun. Classes are open to everyone in the community. A complete listing of classes is available online at www.wuu.org/walt or in the W/JCC Libraries. Registration is either online or through the mail. Registration is “first come-first served” and classes do fill up so Don’t Wait. For more information call: Jill Whitten - Director 757-220-9975

Are you hankering to add RE dates to your family calendar? You are in luck! Below, please find a list of what the different grades will be doing from March– June 2016.

Yours in Peace, Austen Petersen

Key: L = Lower Elementary; U = Upper Elementary; MS = Middle School

6-Mar-16	Children's Chapel: Iranian New Year, No Ruz	No Ruz - Iranian New Year; MS: 16
13-Mar-16	Children's Chapel: UU and Your Senses	UU and Your Senses; MS: 17, 18; STORY WITH REBECCA MILBURN
20-Mar-16	<u>YRUU led service</u>	ALL AGES TOGETHER IN SANCTUARY
27-Mar-16	Easter	ALL AGES TOGETHER IN SANCTUARY
3-Apr-16	Secret Friends Reveal; Children's Chapel: Social Justice	Children's Chapel; MS: 21, 22
10-Apr-16	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Beauty of Nature; U: Buddah's Birthday; MS: 23, 24
17-Apr-16	Children's Chapel: Mary Wollstonecraft Day	Mary Wollstonecraft Day (dress as Frankenstein?); MS: 25
24-Apr-16	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Fruit Chalices; U: Passover; MS: class party
1-May-16	multigenerational - 1 service	May Day; ALL AGES WORSHIP TOGETHER
8-May-16	multigenerational - 1 service	Mother's Day, RE in Sanctuary
15-May-16	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Chalice Flannel Board; U: Chalice Making; MS: Congregation History
22-May-16	Children's Chapel	Children's Chapel; MS: Congregation Herstory
29-May-16	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Helping Others; U: Beauty in Nature; MS: Congregation History
5-Jun-16	End of Semester Party; RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: class party; U: class party; MS: class party

Café Conversation--Pathway to Membership

March 20 12:30-2:30

Have you been interested in membership here at WUU but have been unable to attend Orientation? This Cafe Conversation is for you. Please join the Community Team for this one day orientation course. All are welcome to attend. Please email communityteamchair@wuu.org with questions or to RSVP.



Co-op Housing Interest Group



Have you dreamed of living in a multigenerational housing community whose inhabitants share your UU values? You are not alone. This new interest group, representing young adults, families, working folk, and retirees, intends to explore this topic. The outcome is unknown but let's start the discussion about this dream.

Join us on March 7 at 6:30 in Fahs, this group is open to all. Contact: Les Solomon les.solomon@gmail.com

Prospective Ministerial Search Committee Members

In response to your question: ***What are the jobs involved in serving on the Ministerial Search Committee?***: These jobs are well explained in two UUA documents:

(1) "The Settlement Handbook" (including a suggested time-line of tasks) (pdf file, 47 pages)

see http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/settlement_handbook.pdf

(2) "Resource Guide for Ministerial Search Committees" (Word file, 71 pages)

see <http://www.uua.org/careers/ministers/transitions/150364.shtml>

WUU members who are interested in serving on the Ministerial Search Committee may find it helpful to review these documents before agreeing to serve.



Southern Unitarian Universalist Leadership Experience (SUULE)

A rare opportunity awaits us here at WUU. Thanks to the advocacy of UUA regional staff member Kathy McGowan, this year's Southern Region Leadership School will be held at the ***College of William and Mary*** -- right next door -- on July 24th through 29th, 2016. No longer do we need to travel hundreds of miles to The Mountain NC, or to Florida, or to annual General Assemblies in order to have such high-caliber resources and leadership support. This is a rare opportunity for WUU. Please go [here](#) and [here](#) for more information. If you are interested in attending please contact Rev. Dave, revdaj@aol.com or Lola Warren, president@wuu.org. Fee assistance may be available.

It's Been a Bit Too Wet

On the “critical path” to occupying our new space this summer, we expected to see the foundation and flooring poured and framing completed by the end of February. That has not happened due to weather, including the fact that the weather impacts other jobs that the contractors might have. Nevertheless, the foundations are poured, the foundation blocks are laid, and, as of this writing, some of the plumbing and conduits underground are set.

Once the slab has been poured and the framing is completed, we will really see things move a lot faster since there should be fewer delays as a result of bad weather.

Your Design Build Team has been making a lot of progress on other activities:

- Finding an acoustic solution for the sanctuary, one that should solve many of the current problems without jeopardizing the acoustics appreciated by so many of our musicians.
- Researching flooring options, again seeking solutions to meet many of our constituents.
- Working out the details for our walkways, including the path from our new building to Ironbound Road and paths to the Memorial Garden entrance.
- Roger Guernsey, Jim Kent, and Les Solomon met with representatives from the Unitarian Church of Norfolk to talk about our BOF process. They have located a property to renovate and they are excited (and a bit scared) about all that needs to be done.

And the good news is that we haven't dipped into our contingency reserve very much for change orders (less than \$4,000). Though there are may be surprises as construction continues, all of this is good news.

In the interim, thanks for your patience—it has been a bit muddy, occasionally parking has been limited, the parking lots have been dark (soon to be resolved), and venues have had to be changed. All of this points to why we are doing this—we need more space to fulfill our mission and vision.

Les Solomon Chair, Building our Future



Do you see what I see?

- **The Fahs Playground Project.** Thanks to the volunteers who came out to remove a portion of the chain link fence and install a temporary fence so that new sidewalk construction can take place. By late morning, we had successfully completed the first of many projects designed to save some construction money. Volunteers included: **Don Ackley, Tom Mcardle, Bob Edwards, Franz Gross, Richard Thek, Roger Guernsey, Stephen Sharp, Dave Neiman, Jack Wilson, Tom Payne, and Les Solomon.**
- **Meditation Memorial Garden Rocks Removed.** Thanks to **Ryan Cavalier-Dorsett** for bringing the family along to work on his volunteer project to remove the rocks from around the pond in the Meditation Memorial Garden. And, the **Cavalier-Dorsett family** cleaned up the entire MMG!
- **Surprise.** What happens when the sump pump gives up when the ground is thoroughly saturated? **Answer:** Buy a new pump, haul almost all the furniture to the dump, clean out the back storage room, hire an abatement team to temporarily install fans and a commercial dehumidifier, consult with the insurance adjuster, remove and replace the lower portions of the walls, purchase new shelving, and thoroughly clean! It was an amazing team of **YRUU youth and parents**, as well as **Dave Neiman, Nathaniel Johnson, Chris Faia, Dave Wilcox, Jim Hall, Austen Peterson, and Les Solomon.** The good news—we now have a head start on cleaning Parker in preparation for the move.

Les Solomon-Chair, Campus Improvement Team (CIT)



FISH

(our local community's food & clothing pantry)



Let's stock the FISH shelves with canned meats and veggies and fruits for the spring months.

If you are going to FISH during the week pick up a bag from the wagon and take it along with you Please make sure packages are sealed and all "use by" dates are current Thank you all!



Updating WUU's Photo-Directory

Greetings WUU Members and Friends:

Our photo-directory is incomplete. We ask for your assistance in updating it by providing the information which you wish to share with other congregants. These are our guidelines in preparing the photo-directory:

- The directory is for use ONLY by our members and friends, and therefore is accessible on the password-protected portion of our website. It is not to be used for any commercial purposes, only for WUU-related communications.
- We will include all those who wish to be listed, regardless of whether you are a voting member, a member, or a friend of WUU. The directory does not currently make any distinction.
- We would like to include your current mailing address, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses, as well as a photo of you and your significant other / family. We will include ONLY what you have submitted to us in the church office.

Please go on-line to the password-protected portion of the WUU website:

<http://wuu.org/membership-directories/> Call Ellyn in the office if you need the password. Please review your listing for accuracy and completeness. If we do not already have a photo of you (and your family), and if you are willing to include one, please e-mail an attached photo to Ellyn Stephens in the WUU office office@wuu.org Thanks so much for your assistance. A printed copy of the directory can be requested by contacting the office.

Ellyn Stephens, Program Assistant
Rev. Dave Johnson, Interim Minister

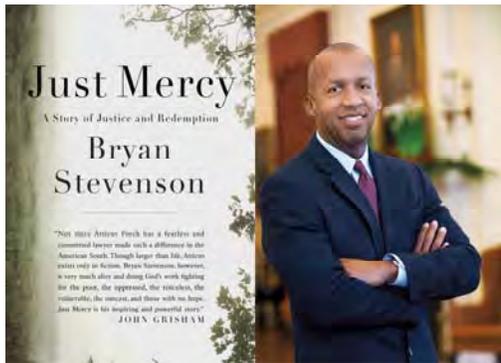
office@wuu.org
revdaj@aol.com



Our children made beautiful sun catchers while learning about our first principle and the golden rule.

Welcoming Congregation Update

On May 6, 2007, WUU completed a process which entitled us to call ourselves a Welcoming Congregation. How are we doing in consistently being that? Should we initiate a renewal of the designation? Please provide feedback to me in person at a service or by mail (fredgilbertson@msn.com) or call me (757-253-2633) and let's talk. I would like to be replaced as LGBTQ Chair for WUU, and I hope someone will step up. To move toward a smooth transition, I hope a good number of you will take some time to discuss with me your ideas of where we are in this regard and how we should move forward. --Fred Gilbertson



Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson, was selected as a Common Read by the staff of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Here is their description of the book:

“Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, has dedicated his legal career to defending those who are trapped by an often capricious, political, and willfully unjust criminal justice system - poor people, people of color, children, and others over whom the system has run roughshod. It speaks to justice, mercy, and compassion, themes of concern to us as Unitarian Universalists and as human beings.” (www.uua.org/re/adults/read)

Stevenson writes in an engaging style with numerous accounts of the cases he has helped resolve. The book is available from the UUA Bookstore, Barnes and Nobel and Amazon.

Mosaic Makers will lead discussions of *Just Mercy* this spring; if you are interested in joining us please send e-mail to Wayne Moyer at wmoyer@widomaker.com



Sunday, February 28 was a beautiful day for the First Baptist Church March for Social Justice!

Sunday Funday



What Goes In To Making a Sunday Service? There are many, many things that go in to making a Sunday service run smoothly. The minister, worship associates, office staff just to name a few. But those are the folks that are easy to point out. But you might not notice our more “behind the scenes” folks such as the audio visual team, parking lot helpers, and Sunday teams.

This is your chance to become a part of our team. Below are descriptions of some of the jobs available each Sunday. Can you help with one of these jobs? You don’t need to attend committee meetings, or commit to a length of time. Try it once, you just might like it! Maybe after trying it out a week you will realize how fun it is to be an integral part of our community and you will make it a weekly or monthly thing. Again, no long-term commitments. All we ask is that if you sign up for a job for a week, show up for that week. We also encourage our youth

to get involved (either with a parent or mature youth can volunteer on their own). We are looking forward to getting to know you better! Please contact Linda Tang at lztang1@gmail.com or Ellyn in the WUU office at office@wuu.org.

- **Facilitator:** Oversees Sunday Team activities for that given Sunday. Makes sure all activities are covered. Arrive 30 minutes before service to open Sanctuary. Locks and secures Sanctuary after service.
- **Greeter:** Arrive 20-30 minutes before service begins. Warmly welcomes everyone who comes in front door and directs visitors to Guest Table where they may get a name tag and visitor’s information card. After service helps Ushers gather hymnals.
- **Guest Table:** Arrive at the Guest Table 20-30 minutes before service begins, and plan to stay after it ends if guests want to talk. Offer guests name tags, and invite them to sign the guest book. Invite them to browse through the pamphlets, and invite them to stay for coffee and conversation after the service.
- **Ushers:** Arrive 20-30 minutes before service begins. Pass out hymnals. Stuff Order of Service (OOS) if needed. Pass out OOS. Help members and guests with seating if needed. Strike gong a few minutes before service begins. Take collection. Collect hymnals after service.
- **Set-up Beverage Service:** Arrive 20 to 30 minutes before service begins. Set-up large percolator for regular coffee. Make a pot of decaf and two hot water pots for tea. Set out and fill 3 creamers. Set out small blue plastic glasses for juice on a round tray and fill to 1/2. Set out a container of water and some extra plastic cups or glasses. Set out sugar, stirrers, napkins, tea, etc. Set out coffee mugs.
- **Bring or Bake:** Arrive 15 minutes before service begins. Bring or bake a treat. An example would be; fruit, cheese and crackers, cookies, chip and pretzels, muffins. Try to coordinate your choices with the other person who has signed-up to bring for that Sunday. Set-up your snacks on trays in the kitchen for serving after service with the beverage service.
- **Clean-up Beverage Service:** Begin clean-up around 11:20. Unplug coffee pots, compost coffee grounds, empty and wash pots. Load dishwasher with all mugs and cups. Put away all sugar, tea, etc. Wipe off counter tops. Take out compost, trash, and recycling. Turn on dishwasher.

Excerpts "From the Hearts"



We hear again the words of our own WUU members who have spoken "From the Heart" during our worship services in January and February. They speak to the question: How has WUU affected my life or the lives of others?

"Several years after we had settled into our retired life in Williamsburg, our neighbor suggested that WUU might be a match for us. So we stuck our toe in the 'spiritual' water of this congregation. It is hard to believe that we have been coming here for well over a decade. And over the years, one thing has become very clear to me. Not only does this congregation voice its beliefs but we put them into action. And there is a place for everyone, no matter their talents....

Over the past decade I have done what so many of you have done, helped out when needed, made good friendships while helping make this a better place and, yes, I had my spirituality watered just a bit.

So what can I conclude? Being a part of this congregation, I have received more than I have given. Looking around the sanctuary this morning, I see a family of friends and relationships that I could not have expected and that I cherish. So I ask you, isn't that worth being here?" **Allen C.**

"In the earliest years of this church I could not have predicted the church I see here today.....

And now, on the 27th anniversary of Charter Sunday, I can no better predict the future than I could in 1989. But what there is now, is the strong conviction that I am absolutely in the right place, that this is home and that you are my family. I have changed, I have grown and I have aged, and I have found a peace here I had not known before. Thank you for being here, and thank you for being who you are - Unitarian Universalists."

David H.

"My desire for our congregation is that our identity come from our lasting liberal faith, not an identity based on our minister, or our building. Like the first Baptist congregation in town, over two hundred years young, many generations, whether meeting in a brush arbor or a brick building on Scotland Street, they have provided a sanctuary. And so, like them, may we provide a sanctuary for liberal faith in Williamsburg for many generations to come. Blessed be." **John H.**

Stewardship Drive Update

"We would like to thank all of our members and friends who have already pledged for the coming fiscal year 2016-17. While the campaign is just a little over two weeks old having officially launched on February 14th, we have pledges from 94 households (about 53% of those gifting last year) which total over 74% of our goal of \$312,000. The average pledge has increased +6% from those pledging last year. Our target is for 100% participation, so we have made it easy for you to pledge online - just go to the website and see. And Help us reach our STRETCH goal of \$330,000. Thanks again for helping make WUU a wonderful congregation. If you have questions, contact any one of the members of the stewardship committee.

Allen Cooke and Linda Lane-Hamilton, Stewardship Co-Chairs

Stewardship Team--Nancy Carnegie, Martha Elim, Helen Hansen, Peter Mellette, Ben Puckett, Trena Tankersley, Eva Burke (Board), Dave Banks (treasurer), Rev. Dave

From the Cluttered Desk and Mind of Your Yard Sale Chair

Get in-touch with your inner talents! Informally connect with UU's and Friends.



No meetings!

Join the WUU 2016 Yard Sale Revolution
on Friday, May 20th and Saturday, May 21st:

Ruth NEEDS You!

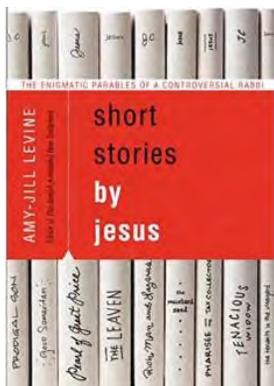
1. **CO-CHAIR(S)** On-site training, I promise. I am looking for one or two people who will work side-by-side with me; co chair(s) who will learn how to plan and organize our Yard Sale.
2. **INTERNET RESEARCHER:** Someone to do selected Internet Research to determine re-sale estimate of value.
3. **EBAY SELLER:** Someone who will place selected donated items on EBAY.
4. **FURNITURE 'MOVERS':** Many, many people needed to help transport furniture donations from member's homes to storage places.
5. **FOOT SOLDIERS...** Dozens upon dozens of volunteers needed to price and organize donations beginning Monday, May 16, 2016 through Saturday, May 21st.
6. **BAKE SALE TABLE:** Bake goodies. Be present on Yard Sale dates to sell the donated items. Contact Marion Wolfe if you can help with the Bake Sale marion217@msn.com
7. **TABLE LOAN:** An additional 10 to 12 long tables are needed to make space for member donations.

Contact Ruth Hopkinson: ruthhop46@gmail.com 757-879-9080 (cell) or 757-565-3298 (home).

Ruth Hopkinson is encouraging you to identify furniture items you wish to donate to our Annual Yard Sale. Although the Yard Sale doesn't occur until May 20/21, WUU has the opportunity to reap ongoing profits from the sale of furniture items **beginning this month and throughout the year**. Early pick-up can be arranged for your unused, unwanted furniture items **if they are in good to excellent condition**. Ruth urges you to call her at 565-3298 (home) or 879-9080 (cell) or email ruthhop46@gmail.com for further information.

Look for the Yard Sale Insert in the Sunday Order of Service

Pathfinders Book Group



The group chooses a book that explores the author's spiritual journey or understanding of the human condition. Group members bring their lunch and we use the book as a springboard for what always turns out to be a spirited discussion of personal reactions.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 16 at noon in the Sanctuary. We will be discussing Short Stories by Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine. Come and join us –and bring a friend! We welcome new members and ideas for new books to read.

Wednesday, March 16, 2016
6:30 PM

Matoaka Woods Room at the William & Mary School of Education

Please Join Us!

Hornsby Distinguished Lecture Series
2016:

Dr. Lisa Delpit

"The Stories We Tell: Disrupting Narratives About Other People's Children"

Dr. Delpit is the Felton G. Clark Distinguished Professor at Southern University College of Education in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Dr. Delpit has earned accolades for her work on teaching and learning in urban schools and in diverse cultural settings. Her work on school-community relations and cross-cultural communication was cited when she received her MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship."

Please RSVP at forms.wm.edu/24974

This lecture is supported through a generous endowment established by the late Robert Stanley Hornsby '41, J.D. '49 and Mrs. Lois Saunier Hornsby with the purpose of enriching a sense of unity for those engaged in the wonders of teaching and learning.



Selected Publications:

"Multiplication is for White People": Raising Expectations for Other People's Children. (2012)

The Skin That We Speak: Thoughts on Language and Culture in the Classroom (co-edited with Joanne Kilgour Dowdy). (2002)

Other People's Children: Cultural Conflict in the Classroom. (1995).



William & Mary
School of Education

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Rev. David Johnson, Interim Minister

revdaj@aol.com

Pat Hoppe, Newsletter Editor

Office Hours

The WUU office is open:

- ◆ 9am-2pm Monday - Friday

Rev. Dave Johnson has office hours:

- ◆ Noon-3pm Monday -Thursday

Austen Petersen, Director of RE, has office hours:

- ◆ Noon-3pm Monday - Thursday.

Sometimes these times change due to meetings, vacation, etc.
Feel free to call first (757) 220-6830 to check our availability.

CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE!

Looking for a way to acknowledge a friend or relative's special day? Why not make a contribution to the WUU Endowment Fund in their name? We will then send out a letter acknowledging that the WUU Endowment Fund has received a gift from you in the name of that special person. What a unique way to recognize an occasion! For a Memorial Gift Form, contact Endowment@wuu.org.

(To add your name and month to the birthday and anniversary list, contact Ellyn Stephens in the office at office@wuu.org.)



March Birthdays

March Anniversaries

Carolyn Wilson and Jack Bachner

Jamie Armstong
Greg Caldwell
Damon Cone
Lowell Diggs
India Eklind
Will Friedrichs
Matthew Luchs

Dan Moore
Wayne Moyer
Melinda Morgan
Les Solomon
David Tetrault
Elaine Themo