



# Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

A Welcoming, Worshiping, Witnessing Community

## The Spiral September 19, 2013

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### This Sunday at WUU: September 22, 2013

**9:15 am-10:00 am**

**The Circle: Contemplative Worship**

**"Mysticism"**

**Carl McColman**

**11:15 am**

**"Sacred Questions, Unknowing Answers: Some Thoughts on Forging a Postmodern**

**Spirituality"**

**Carl McColman**

Carl McColman, a writer and speaker on Christian spirituality and interfaith dialogue, and a lay associate of a Trappist monastery. He is the author of several books, which cover a range of topics, from Wicca to Celtic Spirituality to Christian mysticism. Carl's journey is a long and winding one, ranging from a childhood in the Lutheran Church, to several years in the Pagan community, to his current work teaching Christians how to meditate and helping people of different faiths to relate to one another with honor and respect. He, his wife and stepdaughter live in Clarkston, Georgia.

**11:15 am**

**Children's Program**

- K-2nd grade (Spirit Play) Wanda's Rose
- 3-5th grade (Bibleodeon) Intro to Bible

- Middles (Popcorn Theology) "Back to the Future"

**12:30 pm**

**Rainbow Potluck, Fahs House**

Bring a dish to share and join a welcoming group of LGBTIQ, family members, friends, and other straight allies who gather together to share good food and supportive friendship.

**4:00 pm YRUU Meet in Parker House**

**Autumn Equinox Celebration**

**7:01 pm**

**Sanctuary / Outside**

Join us as we celebrate cycles, seasons, and the inevitability of change. A time to make an inner turn as nature makes a turn of Her own. Weather permitting, the service will be outside around an open fire. Afterwards, there we will roast marshmallows and make s'mores for the children!

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**This Weekend and the Coming Week [Click for entire WUU Calendar](#)**

**Thursday, September 19**

- 2:00 pm, Board Governance Committee Meeting, Fahs House
- 7:30 pm, Leadership Team Meeting, Sanctuary

**Friday, September 20**

- 6:00 pm, 3rd Potluck-Sponsored by the West Virginia Mission Trip Team, Sanctuary
  - Bring a dish to share and enjoy this kid-friendly event

**Saturday, September 21**

- 4:00 pm, Chalice Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Sunday, September 22**

- 9:15 am, The Circle: Contemplative Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:15 am, Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:15 am, Children's Programs
- 12:30 pm, Rainbow Potluck, Fahs House
- 4:00 pm, YRUU, Parker House
- 7:01 pm, Autumn Equinox Celebration, Sanctuary/Outside

**Monday, September 23**

- 10:00 am, Gayle Henion Creative Arts Group, Fahs House
- 7:00 pm, Buddhist Meditation, Sanctuary

**Tuesday, September 24**

- 7:00 pm, QiGong Session I, Narthex
- 7:30 pm, Board Meeting, Fahs House
- 10:00 am, Visioning Circle, Fahs House
  - Must be signed up to attend, contact office for more information

### **Wednesday, September 25**

- 6:30 pm, Chalice Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### **Thursday, September 26**

- 7:30 pm, Membership Team Meeting, Activities Room

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### **Next Sunday: September 29, 2013**

**9:15 am-10:00 am**

**The Circle: Contemplative Worship**

**"What is a Spiritual Experience?"**

**Pat Hoppe**

**11:15 am**

**"Life's BIG Questions"**

**Rev. Jennifer Ryu & Pat Hoppe**

A small group met last spring to ask some of life's most perplexing questions. Members of that group found common responses and will share them with the congregation.

**11:15 am**

**Children's Program**

- K-2nd grade (Spirit Play) Respect All People
- 3-5th grade (Bibleodeon) Exploring the Bible
- Middles (Popcorn Theology) "Star Trek"

**4:00 pm**

**YRUU**

Meet in Parker House

### **Social Justice News**

**FISH Needs**

In September let's fill our FISH barrel with peanut butter. Our donations to FISH help provide food and clothing to our neighbors in need, so remember to bring a jar of peanut butter to church on Sunday!

### **3rd Potluck, WV Mission Trip**

Come to a POTLUCK on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, organized by the WV Mission Trip participants, just returned from their service project early last month. Bring your family (and a dish) to hear about our trip--including games, short story-telling, pictures and fun. Certified kid-friendly!

### **Rainbow Potluck**

September 22, 12:30pm, Fahs House Bring a dish to share and join a welcoming group of LGBTIQ, family members, friends, and other straight allies who gather together to share good food and supportive friendship.

### **Greater Williamsburg Outreach Mission**

[www.gwoutreachmission.org](http://www.gwoutreachmission.org)

The Greater Williamsburg Outreach Mission (GWOM) consists of 21 faith groups, including WUU, who have been working together for about 1 1/2 years to create a program to help alleviate the systemic issues that cause homelessness in the greater Williamsburg area. Currently GWOM is piloting the "3 E Restoration Process" to help a Family in Need. The process is relational and based on a model of "All in Friends" helping a precariously housed family achieve self sufficiency. Last spring our congregation generously donated over \$1,000.00 as a Share the Plate, so we have fulfilled our pledge commitment, which will be used to help with rent, bills, and other expenses.

GWOM volunteers have begun working with a mother, her new husband, and 3 young children to help them break a 2 generation cycle of poverty. Both adults are working, and barriers to self-sufficiency are being addressed. However, since the children are all wearing diapers, faith groups have been asked to donate supplies to eliminate that expense for a struggling family, while they are working on positive economic solutions.

### **WUU is being asked to donate size 4T Girls Pull Ups, Size 3 Diapers, and Boxes of Wipes.**

A box labeled GWOM will be in the foyer next to the Fish Wagon to collect these items Sept. 21 and 28. Your efforts to support this undertaking will be a significant blessing to this family.

Thank you for your support.

Helen Hansen,  
GWOM board member

### **Community of Faith Mission - Homeless Shelter**

Save the Date - The WUU week for the COFM Homeless Shelter is **February 16-23.**

Helen Hansen and Kathy Suslik are co-chairs and will be providing more information on how you can volunteer to help with this important social justice mission.

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### **Owning Your Religious Past**

Are you wondering what to do with past religious beliefs and experiences now that you're a UU? This class will help current Unitarian Universalists examine their religious past, sorting out what to leave, what to bring into the present, and what to redefine. We'll give you simple tools through which you may re-examine your religious past. The workshop involves group sharing, drawing, journaling, and lavish use of newsprint!

This course will be offered for five Tuesdays, starting Oct. 1, from 7:15 - 9 in the Fahs House (Spirit Play room on the left). The course is limited to 10 participants, you may register by clicking [here](#) or contacting the office at 220-6830 or [office@wuu.org](mailto:office@wuu.org)

Class Facilitators:

- Helen Hansen has always been a UU. She is currently social justice co-chair and WUU homeless shelter facilitator. Although she is not a "convert", she enjoyed "owning her religious past" in the class with Linda two years ago.
- Linda Lane-Hamilton left Methodism to becoming a UU in 1971. At WUU, she sings in the choir and attends committee meetings, including Building the Future and the Leadership Team. She took this course two years ago and loved it.

### **Children's LFD News**

We have new curtains in Fahs House thanks to Margaret Payne and Rani Wachter! They are beautiful and add so much color and beauty to the three rooms. Thank you, Ladies, for your contribution to our Fahs House classrooms. You are appreciated VERY much. And the rooms look refurbished and amazing!

The registration of 42 children was accomplished on September 15<sup>th</sup> by Rani Wachter and Sonja Pearson who manned the desk in the Narthex. Thank you, Ladies, for your loyalty and all your work on Sunday morning; we are very thankful for your help both with the registration and the leadership of the huge 45- member class that met in Fahs for the Visioning Circle that the children participated in. Singing, clapping, and talking children were a sight to see and hear as we all enjoyed the wisdom that the children shared as they envisioned the future, took a tour of the campus, and played on the swing set and in the "sandy area" of the Fahs' yard. It was a great time.

Also a big thank you goes to Ellyn Stephens who gathered all the ice cream, sprinkles, sauce, toppings, and whipped cream for our Sunday Sundae Celebration. The College Kids were able to help dip ice cream for all the children and their parents after registration. ....and to them we say another BIG thank you for being spontaneously in-the-moment and helping with the Sundae-making. Thank you, too, to Dave Wilcox for leading the teen youth group at 4 pm on Sunday afternoon. We made some plans, ate some food, and got to know each other a bit better.....that is what life is all about! Thanks!

--Pat Hoppe, Acting Director of Lifespan Faith Development

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With just a week to go, there are just a few more places available for the Visioning Circles. Call the office at 757 220-6830 to reserve your spot.

Reminder to parents of teens: The YRUU Visioning Circle will be on Sunday at 4:00. We want to hear what our teens cherish at WUU and what kind of changes we should make to make WUU a more welcoming home for our youth and the youth who have yet to find us.

Les Solomon  
Chair, Building our Future

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### Green Sanctuary News

#### Plastics

##### ONLY BRING TO WUU #5 OR BOTTLE-SHAPED #1 AND #2 PLASTICS

Regretfully, James City County no longer is accepting plastics for recycling except the #1 and 2 that have a bottle necked shape. However, you can continue to deliver #5s to the bins behind Fahs house because we take turns driving them to Whole Foods in Richmond that contracted with a company that will transform #5s into toothbrushes, et al. We have been made aware that Whole Foods recycles the other "numbers" of plastics and corks as well; we are trying to work on a plan to get items to Whole Foods. If you do not have curbside pickup, you also can bring your bottle shaped #1s and 2s for us to deliver to James City County convenience centers. Thanks for your cooperation, and we will notify you if the situation improves.

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### Caring Committee News

Please contact the Caring Committee at [caringchair@wuu.org](mailto:caringchair@wuu.org) if you know of a member of the Congregation in need of support, or if you are in need of support.

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### Auction News

#### WUU Harvest Moon Auction

This year's auction will be Saturday November 9th, 6:00-9:00 pm. Tickets are \$20.00 again this year and will go on sale on October 6th. Our own Marion Wolfe is crafting the food again this year!

Donate-we need a lot of you to offer dinners, beer & pizza, yard- or house-work (or something indoor like tax prep, editing, or computer assistance). Be thinking of what YOU can do that someone else might bid on! My favorite item is the dinners, as "it keeps on giving" by extending the community to include the event itself-not just the night of the auction. Auction forms will be available on line at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HarvestMoonAuction> or outside the Narthex starting in September. Please contribute one or more items!

Volunteer-get involved! Let me know how you would like to help this year, either before the auction or on the night itself. We need setup, serving, and cleanup crews in addition to auction operations, checkout, and computer crews.

Buy tickets! The Auction is our biggest fundraiser and is important to the WUU operating budget's being able to include a lot of the things we consider important-RE, social justice, music!~Dave Banks, dfbanks -@-earthlink.net.

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## Other News

### **Four Openings in Compassionate Living Covenant Group**

The Compassionate Living Covenant Group started as a covenant group last Sept. and met through the summer. Having studied the Twelve Steps to Compassionate Living book by Karen Armstrong, we seek this year to search for ways to live compassionately with ourselves, others, and with our communities. The group meets on the first and third Tues. of the month from 7:00 - 9:00. There is the expectation of a commitment to join through May. Attendance as often as possible strengthens the relationships in the group and the exploration of our topic. Contact [achadwicks@gmail.com](mailto:achadwicks@gmail.com) with your contact information and any questions.

### **Volunteers needed to mentor for Williamsburg Walk The Talk (WWTT)**

Williamsburg Walk the Talk (WWTT) volunteers invest their time and talent to mentor people leaving the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ) near Williamsburg, VA, to help them have a successful fresh start. This is truly a win/win because getting to know people from different backgrounds helps us grow by sharing their diverse life experiences. In the process we make sure to the best of our ability that they are clothed, fed, housed, assisted with getting a job and shown respect. The main requirement is a willingness to learn about the human resources available in the community and to patiently provide time and opportunity for the client to make use of those resources. The typical time commitment is between 5 and 10 hours per month. Training will be provided.

More information and sign-up details are at <https://sites.google.com/site/wwttalk/> or reach out to [john.schwenkler@hp.com](mailto:john.schwenkler@hp.com)

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## Upcoming Events

- September 20: 3rd Potluck, 6:00 pm, Sponsored by the WV Mission Team, Sanctuary
- September 22: Rainbow Potluck, 12:30 pm, Fahs House
- September 22: Autumn Equinox Ritual, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary
- September 28: Memorial Service for Craig Luchsinger, 4:00 pm, Sanctuary
- October 1: Owing Your Religious Past, 7:00 pm, Fahs House
- October 3: Navigators Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Fahs House
- October 20: Special Congregational Meeting, 12:30 pm, Sanctuary

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