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Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

A Welcoming, Worshiping, Witnessing Community

The Spiral October 31, 2013

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This Sunday at WUU: November 3, 2013

9:15 am-10:00 am

The Circle: Contemplative Worship

"Gratitude for our Gifts"

Charlotte Lorentson

11:15 am

"A Religiously Diverse Democracy"

Rev. Jennifer Ryu

The intersection of the Islamic New Year and Election Day gives us a chance to reflect on the importance of religious pluralism in a democracy such as ours. Anne Rasmussen and the William & Mary Middle Eastern Ensemble will provide the music and the WUU Choir will also sing.

Membership Book

The first Sunday of each month the WUU membership book is open for those who would like to join. If you have completed both WUU orientation sessions or are a transferring member of another UU congregation, please join us at the front of the sanctuary immediately following the service, to sign the membership book.

11:15am

Children's Programs

K-2nd Grade (Spirit Play) "Gratitude: Golden Rule"

3rd-5th Grade (Bibleodeon) "Noah"

Middles (Popcorn Theology) "Little Buddha"

Share the Plate

The November 3rd Share the Plate collection will be directed to Williamsburg Faith in Action (WFIA) whose mission is to help seniors and adults with chronic illnesses or physical disabilities to remain independent in their homes. The organization fosters caring relationships between volunteers - including several WUUs - and care receivers. Faith in Action is a national volunteer movement, which brings together volunteers from many faiths and the community at large. The disabled individuals are provided with transportation, shopping, light housekeeping, yard work, or friendly visits as needed. Linda Lane-Hamilton from WFIA, will speak briefly during the 11:15 service. For a full description of services provided by WFIA, please visit www.wfia.org.

4:00 pm

YRUU

YRUU members meet at Parker House and will see a video and learn about Oriental religious

experiences such as Confucian, Tao, Shinto; Stacey Felipe and Pat Hoppe will be present.

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

Thursday, October 31

- 7:30 pm, Samhain Celebration, Sanctuary/Outdoors
 - The Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. Come join us as we celebrate Samhain and bring your children all dressed up in their finest Halloween gear. We will sing and celebrate this important Gaelic holiday. Weather permitting, this service will be outside around an open fire!

Sunday, November 3

- 9:15 am, The Circle: Contemplative Worship, Sanctuary
- 10:45 am, Youth Choir Rehearsal, Fahs House
- 11:15 am, Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:15 am, Children's Programs, Sanctuary/Fahs/Parker
- 4:00 pm, YRUU, Parker House

Monday, November 4

- 10:00 am, The Gayle Henion Creative Arts Group, Fahs House
- 5:00 pm, Stewardship Committee Meeting, Fahs House
- 7:00 pm, Buddhist Meditation, Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 5

- 7:00 pm, QiGong Practice-Session II, Narthex

Wednesday, November 6

- 7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, November 7

- 6:30 pm, Navigators Monthly Gathering, Fahs House

Next Sunday: November 10, 2013

9:15 am-10:00 am

The Circle: Contemplative Worship

"Gratitude Through Sharing"

Neill Wilson

11:15 am

"Gifts for a Better World"

Rev. Jennifer Ryu

Even before all the Halloween candy had been eaten, retail shops were getting ready for the Christmas gift-giving season. To help us stay ahead of the game, Rev. Jennifer invites the congregation to consider practicing ethical consumption this holiday season.

11:15 am

Children's Programs

K-2nd Grade (Spirit Play) "The Green & Gracious Dragon"

3rd-5th Grade (Bibleodeon) "Abraham"

Middles (Popcorn Theology) "Star Trek V: The Final Frontier"

Lifespan Faith Development

"A YEAR TO LIVE"
2nd Sunday's at 2:00pm-3:30pm
Beginning November 10, 2013
Ending June 8, 2014
Fahs House

Rev. Jennifer invites you to spend the next eight months with her, exploring issues of life and death.

Following the book by Stephen Levine, we will "practice dying in order to appreciate our living." As a group, we will engage in spiritual exercises that will hopefully help us to reach the end of life with fewer regrets.

Please obtain the book if you can: "A Year to Live: How to Live This Year as If It Were Your Last" This would be a great time to use the Amazon link on the WUU webpage (http://wuu.org/wordpress/?page_id=2342). Our congregation receives a percentage of each sale if you use this link.

To register for this class, call the office (757-220-6830) or [sign up here](#)

WUU 25th Anniversary News

Do you have some WUU history in your possession -- photos, scrapbooks, etc.?

We need them for our upcoming 25th anniversary on February 1, 2014 -- and for posterity. If you are keeping them for the congregation, they need to be gathered. If they are yours, I would like to copy them. As soon as possible, please leave whatever you have in the church office or contact me and I will pick them up warrendr@cox.net or 220-3853

-Dave Warren, WUU Historian

WUU Auction News

WUU Auction is coming November 9th

DONATE-consider what you can DO-meals and other things that continue to grow community throughout the year are especially nice. Services-do some yard work, help with taxes etc. Vacations and getaways are favorites. Click [here](#) for a donation form or one can be picked up outside the Narthex each Sunday.

VOLUNTEER-we need people to help with every phase of the Auction from setup to cleanup as well as beforehand. Please email Dave Banks [dfbanks @ earthlink.net](mailto:dfbanks@earthlink.net) or sign up at the Auction table on Sunday.

SOLICIT-Business donations-gift cards, services, products, etc-are more likely to be given if YOU ask a merchant where you regularly shop. In particular, we need you to ask RESTAURANTS, FASHIONS, BARBER/BEAUTY and FURNITURE/HOME DÉCOR facilities, YOGA studios.

COME-Tickets (\$20.00) are on sale outside the Narthex on Sundays. Please buy your tickets and **come to the Auction.**

Social Justice News

FISH Needs

Winter is coming, so let's help fill the FISH pantry shelves with veggies! Please bring canned vegetables, especially corn and green beans, and some canned pumpkin and evaporated milk to WUU each Sunday in November.

Greater Williamsburg Outreach Mission update

Thank you for your support of our Family in Need. The diapers donated by WUU and the other 20 faith group partners will provide a six month supply for LaTonya's three young children, for a savings of over \$300.00 per month. The pilot program for the 3E Restoration Process (Encourage, Equip, Empower) is using a highly caring, relational, structured approach to help a family that is in danger of becoming homeless. As the WUU representative of GWOM, I urge you to visit the website www.gwoutreachmission.org, facebook page [facebook.com/gwoutreachmission](https://www.facebook.com/gwoutreachmission), or contact sjchair@wuu.org to learn more about GWOM and our Family In Need.

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.

Building Our Future**Building Our Future - Are You Ready to Vote on Phase One?**

Why vote? Voting members of WUU must affirm the recommendation by the WUU Board to move forward to complete Phase 1 (Exploratory phase) on the BOF Timeline.

When? Sunday, November 17, at 12:30.

Where? WUU Sanctuary (childcare and snacks provided)

How? Ballots will be provided at the meeting.

What if I can't be there? Absentee ballots are available from the WUU office.

Those attending the informational congregational meetings October 20 & 21, had an opportunity to learn what their fellow WUUs value here and what changes have been suggested as a result of the 23 Visioning Circles held July-September. **The BOF Report** is available online at [here](#). A few hard copies are available in the Narthex. *Over 1,500 comments recorded at those visioning circles are posted on the walls of the sanctuary and on the WUU website.*

Stay up-to-date with Building Our Future! Read the weekly BOF Newsletter (sent by email). View newsletters on the WUU website [here](#).

Caring Committee News

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

Other News**Samhain Celebration, October 31, 7:30pm**

The Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter.

Come join us as we celebrate Samhain and bring your children all dressed up in their finest Halloween gear. We will sing and celebrate this important Gaelic holiday. Weather permitting, this service will be outside around an open fire!

WALT classes still available

The Williamsburg Area Learning Tree fall semester still has seats available in a number of the November/December classes. Check the listing and information at www.wuu.org/walt

Message from the WUU Nominating Committee

At the annual meeting on 2/9/14, the congregation will elect members to fill openings on the WUU Board as well as positions on several other committees (Endowment, Nominating, and Committee for Right Relations). We value both previous experience and fresh perspective, so members old and new are encouraged to consider stepping forward! If you are interested in serving, have questions, and / or wish to recommend someone, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee (Jane Ferguson, Fred Gilbertson, and Heather Scully). You can speak to any of us in person, e-mail us at nominating@wuu.org or call Jane Ferguson at 757-564-0807.

Directory News

The long awaited and much anticipated directory is now online for our members. Please [click here](#) and use the members only username and password. If you did not get the username/password, or need a reminder please contact the office at office@wuu.org or 220-6830. A printed copy of the directory will be available for pick up at services on November 3 or in the office any time following. If there is a mistake or change that needs to be changed please contact the office ASAP so that we can make the change before the printing. Thank you for your patience!

Child Life Wish List

Our own Lily Bolling and her mom Stacy are collecting items for children on the cancer unit at CHKD in order to make care packages for those receiving treatment. Along with this she is composing a short essay describing her project and her interest in helping children with cancer. Should you choose to donate items you will get a copy of her essay!

Click [here](#) for list of items that was provided by the donations coordinator at the hospital. Lily and Stacy will have a table and box set up at church on Sunday November 17 for donations. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Stacy at SBolling@colonialbh.org or (757) 719-2770.

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 6:30 - 8:30 and will reconvene on November 1. 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 with your contact information and any questions.

Upcoming Events

- October 31: Samhain Celebration, 7:30 pm, Outdoors
- November 7: Navigators Monthly Meeting, 6:30 pm, Fahs House
- November 9: WUU Harvest Moon Auction, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary
- November 10: "A Year to Live" Class, 2:00 pm, Fahs House
- November 11: Veterans Day, Office Closed
- November 17: Congregational Meeting, 12:30 pm, Sanctuary
- November 15: 3rd Potluck, Family Game Night, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary
- November 24: Rainbow Potluck, 12:30 pm, Fahs House
- November 28: Thanksgiving Day, Office Closed
- November 29: Office Closed

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