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## Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

**A Welcoming, Worshiping, Witnessing Community**

### The Spiral December 19, 2013

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

**There will be no 9:15 service today**

**11:15 am**

**All Ages Worship**

**"Follow Yonder Star: A UU Christmas Pageant"** We enact the story of the three wise men, but from a slightly different angle, re-imagining the story to include their wives who also make the journey to Bethlehem.

**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.

**YRUU will not meet today**

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

**Thursday, December 19**

- 2:00 pm, Board Governance Committee Meeting, Fahs House
- 5:45 pm, Christmas Caroling, Meet in parking lot to carpool

**Friday, December 20**

- 6:00 pm, 3rd Potluck, Yule Sing, Tree Decorating, Children's "Shop", Sanctuary

**Saturday, December 21**

- 4:00 pm, Pageant Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm, Winter Solstice Drumming & Dancing, Outdoors weather permitting; Sanctuary

**Sunday, December 22**

- NO 9:15 SERVICE TODAY
- 11:15 am, "Follow Yonder Star: A UU Christmas Pageant", Sanctuary
- 12:30 pm, Rainbow Potluck, Fahs House
- NO YRUU TODAY
- 7:00 pm, Insight Meditation, Sanctuary

**Monday, December 23**

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

**Tuesday, December 24**

- 9:00 pm, Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary

**Wednesday, December 25**

- Office Closed

**Next Sunday: December 29, 2013**

**There will be no 9:15 service today**

**12:30 pm**

**Book Discussion led by Rev. Jennifer Ryu "God Revised"**

**11:15 am**

**All Ages Worship Service**

**Rev. Jennifer Ryu**

**Worship "Celebration of Newness"** We turn our faces toward the new year and contemplate the blessings of fresh starts, new ideas, and new ventures. On this day, we light candles of joy for all the babies born in the previous year. Please bring photos of those babies for our alter. Eva Burke is the worship associate.

**4:00 pm**

**YRUU Game Night at Pat Hoppe's Home**

**7:00 pm Insight Meditation**

**Covenant Groups**

**Covenant Group Sign ups are underway** If you are interested in any of our upcoming Covenant Groups please sign up in the Narthex on Sunday or contact the office at [office@wu.org](mailto:office@wu.org) or (757) 220-6830. The deadline for signing up is December 29. The groups are:

- New UU Covenant Group (co-led by Jane Reilly and Emily Dabney)
  - 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 pm
- Compassion Deep Study Group (led by Kim Scholpp)
  - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
  - People entering the group do not need to have read Karen Armstrong's book, "12 Steps to a Compassionate Life" but is it a good starting point. There is a Study Guide

on line: <http://ppo.ala.org/commonground/commonground/files/charterreadingguide.pdf>

- Men as Caregivers Group (led by Lee Hougen)
  - 2nd Thursdays at 7:00 pm
- Spiritual Journey Group (co-led by Glen and Melinda Morgan)
  - 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 1:00 pm

## Social Justice News

### FISH Needs

In December please bring a can of fish to church each Sunday and put it in the FISH wagon. Canned fish of any type, tuna, sardines, salmon (but probably not anchovies!) is well received and is one of the staples that FISH provides to people in need. Let's celebrate the holiday season by filling the FISH wagon with tons of fish!

### Socks and Underwear Donations

In addition to food bags FISH also makes socks and underwear available to those in need. Their clients come in all sizes, ages and gender, so please pick up a few packages of socks and underwear the next time you are shopping and leave them for FISH in the Red Racer wagon by the rest room entrance. Wayne Moyer



### Community of Faith Mission - Homeless Shelter-February 16-23

We will begin signing up volunteers after services in January. On-line registration can begin any time. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FA4AD28A0FE3-cofm>

Last year almost everyone participated in some way:

- Volunteering for one or more shifts.
- Making food to deliver to the church.
- Donating money at the Christmas Eve service or any time with the notation COFM shelter.
- Donating a service or entertainment for our guests.
- Anything else you would like to do to make our guest's stay comfortable.

Thank you for participating in this important social justice mission.

Helen Hansen and Kathy Suslik, chairs

### The Day For All People

Please join other UUs from the newly formed UU-VA-Advocacy Group at this Virginia Interfaith Center sponsored event. This is your chance to interact with our legislators on important issues, Registration is required by January 17. Contact Helen Hansen, David Wilcox, or John Whitley for more information.

We'll meet at the Greater Richmond Convention Center for a day of fellowship, education and advocacy. The morning will include a welcome address and policy briefings, after which we will walk over to meet with our Senators and Delegates, and watch committee hearings and the floor sessions. We will then return to the Convention Center for lunch and an afternoon speaker. Transportation will be available to and from the General Assembly Building for those who are unable to make the walk. Parking is also available at the Convention Center for \$6 so please consider carpooling with a friend. Additionally, buses will be coming from Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia.

**Space is limited and online registration is required by January 17th.**

For more information about the day, you can find [an agenda online here](#).

### **UU Legislative Ministry in Virginia Established**

Representatives from Virginia UU congregations held their second meeting in Richmond to continue work on establishing a UU Legislative Ministry in Virginia. The group selected "Virginia Dream Act: in state tuition for DACA Recipients" as their signature issue for 2014. Contact our WUU representative, John Whitley for more information.

### **Building Our Future**

#### **STAY CURRENT WITH BUILDING OUR FUTURE ACTIVITIES:**

The next BOF Newsletter will be available by email in January. Archived issues may be found on the WUU website at: [http://wuu.org/wordpress/?page\\_id=12569](http://wuu.org/wordpress/?page_id=12569).

#### **Next Steps Fund:**

We are getting closer to the \$30,000 goal for the initial funding needed to hire an architect and the financial feasibility consultant for the exploratory phase of the Building Our Future Timeline. All gifts, small and large, are appreciated. Checks may be made out to WUU with Next Steps Fund in the memo line. Send these to the WUU Office or place in a clearly marked envelope and drop in the collection plate on Sunday.

### **Caring Committee News**

Amy Waltrip was struck by a car while riding her bike last Thursday. She is recovering at her brother's home in Toano and could use some help. Please call Rev. Jennifer if you live in that area and would like to help out.

Condolences to Jamie Armstrong (Jamie Bartlett's husband) and his family on the passing of his father.

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.

### **WUU 25th Anniversary Celebration**

#### **25th Anniversary Celebration**

Be sure to mark your calendar for our 25th anniversary celebration. It will be taking place on Saturday, February 1 at the Williamsburg Hellenic Center and is an all ages celebration! We will be looking for sponsors to help offset the cost of dinner tickets for those who might not be able to afford it--more information to follow.

### **Yule Sing & Holiday Potluck Party**



#### **YULE SING & HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY**

Friday December 20 at 6pm

Singing holiday carols around the piano, making decorations for our tree, sharing our favorite potluck dishes, and celebrating the joy of the holidays with each other--that's what Yule Sing is all about!

We need folks to volunteer for the following jobs: ornament table helpers (3), set up potluck dishes as they arrive (2-3), Help in gift room (15-20), potluck cleanup (many), Provide gifts (new / gently used items for all ages) for children to give to their family members (lots and lots needed). You may sign up by clicking [Here](#) or contact Ellyn in the office 220-6830 or office@wuu.org if you can help. Gift items can be dropped off at the office (9am-2pm) or placed in the designated box in the library.

## Other News

### **Winter Solstice Drumming & Dancing December 21, 6 pm Sanctuary/Outdoors**

Bring drums and bells and noisemakers of all kinds and dance to the dark! All ages needed to bring back the light.

### **New Member Orientation, January 12 and 18**

If you are a newcomer or visitor and would like to learn more about Unitarian Universalists, WUU and its activities and its ministries, please join other like-minded individuals for our next orientation session. The first class of the two session program is held on **Sunday, Jan. 12, from 4:00 - 6:00** with the second part offered on the **following Saturday, Jan. 18, from 9:00 - 1:00**, with lunch included. Both classes are held at Fahs House. Childcare is available if requested by Jan. 6. Please register at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/january2014orientation> or sign up at the Visitors' Table. Membership representatives staffing the Visitors' Table will be happy to answer questions.

### **Join the WUU Mission/Service Trip to West Virginia this Summer**

Think you might be interested in joining other WUU's on our Summer Service Week in West Virginia? August 3-9th is our week. With leadership from Appalachian South Folklife Center, we will all work together to improve the lives of residents in the Pipestem area of the state.

On Sunday, January 19th, come for a short conversation on the project with past volunteers and bring your questions. It's not too early to reserve a space and make your plans. Remember, teenagers over 13 are very welcome to join the week. This is a great opportunity for adults and young adults to do real service work. Jessica O'Brien, coordinator

## Upcoming Events

- December 19: Here We Go A-Caroling, 5:45 pm, Parking Lot
- December 20: Yule Sing & Potluck Dinner, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary
- December 21: Winter Solstice: Drumming & Dancing, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary and Outdoors
- December 22: Follow Yonder Star: A Holiday Pageant, 11:15am, Sanctuary
- December 24: Candlelight Christmas Eve, 9:00 pm, Sanctuary
- December 25: Office Closed
- December 31: Office Closed
- January 1: Office Closed
- February 1: 25th Anniversary Celebration, Williamsburg Hellenic Center

## Links

[WUU Calendar](#)

[Shop at Amazon.com through this link to support WUU](#)

<a href="#"><u>WUU Website</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>WUU Facebook Page</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>WUU Newsletters</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Past Spiral Editions</u></a>

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