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## Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

**A Welcoming, Worshiping, Witnessing Community**

### The Spiral December 26, 2013

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#### This Sunday at WUU: December 29, 2013

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

**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.

**12:30 pm**

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

Chili will be provided

**4:00 pm**

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

**7:00 pm**

**Insight Meditation, Sanctuary**

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

**Sunday, December 29**

- NO 9:15 SERVICE TODAY
- 11:15 am, Worship, "Celebration of Newness", Sanctuary
- 12:30 pm, Book Discussion, "God Revised", Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm, YRUU, Game Night at Pat Hoppe's Home

- 7:00 pm, Insight Meditation, Sanctuary

### Monday, December 30

- No Gayle Henion Creative Arts Group Today
- 7:00 pm, Buddhist Meditation

### Tuesday, December 31

- Office Closed

### Wednesday, January 1

- Office Closed

### Next Sunday: January 5, 2013

9:15 am

#### The Circle: Contemplative Worship

#### "The Abundance of Now"

Eva Burke, Worship Leader

How do we, in a community of such spiritual overabundance, focus on the here and now, focus on the next step in our own journey?

11:15 am

#### An All-Ages Worship Service

#### "Does This Faith Make My Soul Look Fat?"

**Rev. Robert Coats** We live in a consumer age and a consumer society. We can tend to sometimes make decisions based on what's the fastest and easiest instead of perhaps what's the ideal. In our culture are we consumers or practitioners of spirituality, faith, and religion? Do we apply the same marketing principles to matters of spirituality, religion and faith as we do our other consumer choices? Is it possible in a culture of great abundance to also have an overabundance of easy, fast, disposable spirituality, faith and religion?

- Today's Share the Plate Collection goes to Bacon Street--an outpatient center serving individuals and families who are dealing with substance abuse and mental health issues.
- The Membership Book is open today for those who have completed the New UU Orientation sessions or are transferring membership from another UU congregation.

12:30 pm

Prospective Teacher, LFD Informational Meeting, Fahs House

4:00 pm

YRUU, Parker House

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@wuu.org](mailto:office@wuu.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>
- 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!



### 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.

### "The Material Worked by Poetry"

**SPIRITUALITY PROGRAM OFFERED  
BY JENNIFER RYU & PRESTON MOORE  
January 27 & 28 (choose 2pm or 7pm section), Fahs House**

#### "The Material Worked by Poetry"

The literary giant Harold Bloom says that consciousness is to poetry as stone is to sculpture: it is the material worked. What might happen if you submitted yourself to being shaped, worked on, in this way? If you want to find out, come to a program of being with poems and sharing they affect us. No literary criticism. Just the poems and one another.

This is a two-session class on Monday, January 27 and Tuesday, January 28. To maximize accessibility of the program, there will be two times offered, one in the afternoon (2pm to 4pm) and another in the evening (7pm to 9pm). Participants who can attend the afternoon section should try to do so, in order to make it possible for others who work during the day to attend in the evening section. [Please sign up Here](#) or contact the office at [office@wuu.org](mailto:office@wuu.org) or 220-6830. Facilitators: Revs. Jennifer Ryu and Preston Moore.

### 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.

### WUU 25th Anniversary Celebration



**Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists  
25th Anniversary Celebration Dinner  
Saturday, February 1, 2014  
5:00 pm**

- A Family - Friendly Event!
- Special Guests: Randy Becker, Jim VanderWheele, Eileen Karpeles, Roy Reynolds, and Preston Moore.
- Vegan, Vegetarian & Omnivore dinner options
- At The Williamsburg Hellenic Center, 4900 Mooretown Road, Williamsburg

Tickets \$25/person; \$12/children 11-16; No Charge/children under 11  
Please don't let finances stop you from attending. Contact Ellyn or Rev. Jennifer for discounted tickets at [office@wuu.org](mailto:office@wuu.org) or 220-6830.

RSVP by filling out the Reservation form online: [www.wuu.org](http://www.wuu.org) or [Here](#)  
Send checks for tickets to the WUU Office, or buy them after services on January 5, 12, & 19.

Deadline for Reservations: January 15th

Deadline for Payment: January 19th

## Other News

### **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 29: Book Discussion "God Revised", 12:30pm, Sanctuary
- December 31: Office Closed
- January 1: Office Closed
- January 11: COFM Potluck & Fellowship Training, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary
- January 17: 3rd Potluck, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary
- February 1: 25th Anniversary Celebration, Williamsburg Hellenic Center

## Links

[WUU Calendar](#)

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**Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists**

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