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## Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

**A Welcoming, Worshiping, Witnessing Community**

### The Spiral February 13, 2014

Table of Contents (Click link to jump to that section)

<a href="#">This Sunday</a>	<a href="#">Secret Friends</a>
<a href="#">Weekly Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Building Our Future</a>
<a href="#">Next Sunday</a>	<a href="#">Caring Committee</a>
<a href="#">Stewardship</a>	<a href="#">Other News</a>
<a href="#">Social Justice</a>	<a href="#">Upcoming Events</a>
<a href="#">Religious Education</a>	<a href="#">Links</a>

#### **This Sunday at WUU: February 16, 2014**

**9:15am**

**The Circle: Contemplative Worship, "Our WUU Covenant"**

**Nan Hart and James Gerald. Worship Leaders**

In entering into our Covenant, what do we, as individuals, gain? What do we give up? What service do

we owe those we have entered into covenant with?

**11:15 am**

**"Walking with Prophets"**

**Rev. Jennifer Ryu**

With so much bad news in the air, it is tempting to fall into a deep pessimism about the state of the world. Reading the poetry of Isaiah, Hosea, and Jeremiah can renew our vision of liberation and justice, for they were truth-tellers and hope-tellers. They also had some radical ideas about the meaning of covenant, using the word to talk about mission to others.

**11:15 am Children's Chapel: "Solomon"**

with Pat Hoppe & Scott Varney. All children please meet in Fahs House.

**11:15am Popcorn Theology (Grades 6,7,8) will meet today in Parker House to view "Contact"**

**4:00pm**

**Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU)**

Today we will be helping with the homeless shelter.

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

**Thursday, February 13**

- Canceled, The Odyssey, Fahs House

- 1:00 pm, Spiritual Journey Covenant Group, Fahs House
- 7:30 pm, Leadership Team Meeting, Fahs House

### Sunday, February 16

- 9:15 am, Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:15 am, Worship, Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm, YRUU, Sanctuary

**Please note that February 16-22 is COFM Homeless Shelter Week at WUU and many regularly scheduled events will NOT take place. If the event is not listed on this schedule, it will not take place.**

### Wednesday, February 19

- 6:00 pm, Finance Committee Meeting, Parker House

### Thursday, February 20

- 6:30 pm, New UU Covenant Group, Parker House

### Next Sunday: February 23, 2013

#### 9:15am

#### **The Circle: Contemplative Worship, "The Old Testament Covenant"**

#### **Charlotte Lorentson and Rev. Jennifer Ryu, Worship Leaders**

What was God's contact with the Israelites? What did they owe God? What did God owe them? How does this, if at all, translate into your personal spiritual relationship?

#### 11:15 am

#### **"WUU: Community or Congregation?"**

#### **Rev. Jennifer Ryu**

People in the UU world have been talking about our future "beyond congregations." Are we a movement or a denomination? What does it mean to be a UU outside of a church building? How does our being a covenantal, rather than a creedal body, affect our response to these questions?

#### **11:15 am Children's Program K-2nd (Spirit Play) "Learning by Heart"**

3rd-5th Grade (Bibleodeon) "Women in the Bible"

#### **No Popcorn Theology Today--OWL for registered class participants**

#### 3:00pm

#### **Young Religious Unitarian Universalists (YRUU)**

3 pm sharp, leave for Laser Quest trip and return to Parker by 9 pm.

### Stewardship News

#### **THE ANNUAL APPEAL CONTINUES - AND YOUR PLEDGE IS IMPORTANT**

We have an annual appeal goal for the July 2014-June 2015 year of \$331,000, about 3% greater than the current year. Your pledges pay for over 80% of our annual budget. An annual pledge is our way of giving thanks for the services we receive from a dedicated minister and staff and allows us to support our WUU community and our social justice outreach.

For the next 3 Sundays, your Stewardship Committee will have a table set up outside the sanctuary to distribute pledge packets and collect pledges. If you have not already done so, please stop by before or at the end of the service to pick up your personal packet.

#### **PLEDGING IS EASY**

You can complete the pledge form in the packet or you can go online to the WUU home page and use the fillable form to complete your pledge.

### **THE ANNUAL APPEAL IS OFF TO A GOOD START, BUT WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU**

As of Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, we have received \$152,566 in pledges from 64 pledging individuals and families. So, 2 weeks into the appeal, we have 46% of our goal. For the 2013-14 pledge year we had 180 families and individuals contribute. So we still have yet to hear from over half of the congregation.

### **QUESTIONS?**

Please ask a Stewardship Committee member or either Ellyn Stephens or Suzanne Huddleston in the WUU Office.

### **THANKS IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR CONTINUED - AND WHERE POSSIBLE INCREASED -SUPPORT**

**Remember that your gifts help WUU thrive and bless the world. Thank you.**

Peter Mellette - on behalf of the Stewardship Committee

## **Social Justice News**

### **FISH Needs**

Share warm feelings by bringing in "warm comfort" food - soups, mac & cheese, hot chocolate (some sugar free) each Sunday in February for our donation to FISH.

### **Desserts Needed**

Food for the Shelter has been taken care of by many, many willing volunteers. We do, however, need desserts for the week--we are relying on you to drop things off that we can serve. Last year we were buried in desserts, so we decided to just put out a general call this year. You can drop them off this Sunday and any other day (Monday to Friday) between 5 and 8pm. We will send out an alert if we get too many--or if we are running short. Please consider baking something for the Shelter.

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

The shelter week is finally here!!!! We will begin hosting our guests this Sunday, Feb. 16. We are expecting a full house, 25 folks each night. We have all volunteer shifts filled and food will be plentiful and delicious.

**You may check your scheduled shifts at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FA4AD28A0FE3-cofm>**

### **We will be setting up for the shelter after the second service. We can use volunteers to stack chairs and unload the COFM trailer.**

Donations are still welcome, and will be used for new clothing, laundry, or gas cards. You may put checks in the offering plate with COFM Shelter in the notation line or send contributions to the office clearly marked.

Desserts are needed and can be delivered to the kitchen any day after 5:00 pm.

If you signed up to bring food, Jessica has contacted you.

If you plan to bring food, but were not contacted by Jessica, or if you would like to sign up in case more food is needed, please e-mail Jessica O'Brien. [newjb2001@hotmail.com](mailto:newjb2001@hotmail.com).

Children under 14 are invited to make bag lunches. Contact Pat Hoppe [dlfd@wuu.org](mailto:dlfd@wuu.org) to sign up.

Young people 14 and over have been invited to volunteer for a server shift.

Also, if you would like to be on call for any shifts, please contact Stacey Felipe

[stacey.felipe@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.felipe@gmail.com) or Helen Hansen [helenfoxhansen@gmail.com](mailto:helenfoxhansen@gmail.com).

Thank you WUU for working together to be sure our homeless neighbors have food and a warm place to sleep.

**UUA Common Read - Beyond the Kitchen Door**

WUU is participating in the Unitarian Universalist Association Common Read of "Behind the Kitchen Door." We're reading the book now and will be getting together on February 23 at 2pm to discuss the book and consider the insight it gives us into this important part of Williamsburg.

**WUU "Witness for Love," Friday, February 14, 12noon at the Williamsburg-James City County Courthouse, 5201 Monticello**

Organized by POFEV: People of Faith for Equality in Virginia is organizing a public witness for marriage equality at dozens of courthouses across Virginia.

These are celebrations of love with the intention of sharing a clear message: "We want all Virginians to be able to marry the person of their dreams, and we want it to happen now!"

Everyone's help is needed: same-gender-loving couples seeking a marriage license or with a marriage certificate from another place to present asking for state recognition of their legal marriage, other LGBT and straight folks, young and old, religious or not, diverse in every possible way.

Here's what will happen: folks gather outside, share a blessing, go into the courthouse, present applications and their desire for change, listen to the clerk politely refuse, thank them, tell them you'll be back next year, go back outside, share any feelings and thoughts, repeat the vow to return next year, and learn how you can keep helping during the year, share a blessing, and disperse.

Contact Rev. Jennifer with any questions. (minister @ wuu.org)

**Lifespan Faith Development (LFD) Religious Education**

This coming Sunday Scott Varney and Pat Hoppe will lead 11:15 the Children's Chapel in Fahs BEGINNING AT AM; please bring the children directly to Fahs at 11:15.

"Popcorn Theology" youth will meet in Parker at 11:15 to see "Contact", the movie, and discuss it with Gwen and Vanessa and Karen.

**YRUU**

YRUU on Feb 16 Work in the kitchen after 11:15 service to make sandwiches

YRUU on Feb 16 at 4 pm make sandwiches or otherwise help set up for the homeless week

YRUU on Feb 23 at 3 pm sharp, leave for Laser Quest trip and return to Parker by 9 pm

**Secret Friends****SECRET FRIENDS DEADLINE**

If you did not fill out the Secret Friends form and wish to participate, call Pat Hoppe at the office (220-6830) ASAP and give her your info over the phone.

Secret friends notices will go to participants February 17<sup>th</sup> so that they can begin to send their letters out to the children.

**Building Our Future: Step by Step (BOF)**

Mark your calendars for March 23 for a Congregational Working Group meeting and May 18 for a Congregational Town Meeting. Both meetings will be led by the GTA (Guernsey Tingle Architect) team and will be held at 12:30. All interested members and friends are urged to attend both meetings.

### **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.

### **Other News**

#### **Note from the Office**

Ellyn Stephens, the program assistant, will be out of the office from February 12-19. You may email or leave a message which will be followed up upon on her return. For more immediate answers please contact Rev. Jennifer Ryu in the office at 220-6830 or [jennifer@wuu.org](mailto:jennifer@wuu.org).

#### **Spring WALT Classes Now Open For Registration**

65 Great classes to choose from! Check them out online [here](#) or pick up the program flyer available in the Narthex.

#### **Getting In To "Hot Water" - Prof. Joanne M. Braxton**

Dr. Braxton will explore the importance of the "Hot Water Tract" - site of today's Freedom Park Saturday, February 15 4-5 p.m. - Freedom Park

#### **Committee of Right Relations Discussion Sunday, February 16**

The Board of Trustees and the Committee on Right Relations would like to invite anyone who has unresolved feelings regarding the departure of Margaret Sequeira to a discussion on Sunday, February 16, 2014. We will meet in Fahs house immediately following the late worship service. Child care and a light snack will be provided. With the assistance of the Committee on Right Relations, Rachel Delbos and Charles Tankersley, who are both members of the Board and the Personnel Committee, will hear your thoughts, answer your questions, and provide as much information as they possibly can.

#### **Hands Together Historic Triangle 2014**

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." - Martin Luther King Jr.

Have you signed up to volunteer for February 24th's Hands Together event? We are still looking for Navigators -- people to guide our neighbors around to the services they are interested in, share a lunch, and get to know them and the community resources available. Training is provided.

If you'd like to help a neighbor in need to navigate the event, please send an email to [handstogethervolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:handstogethervolunteers@gmail.com) -- you can get to know someone and help them find the resources they need on February 24th at Quarterpath Rec Center in Williamsburg.

#### **An Invitation to WUU Visual Artists, Writers and Composers of Music**

Exhibit Date: April 1 - 30

Registration Deadline: Sunday, March 16

All work due in WUU Library: Sunday March 30

Kick Off Reception and Program: 7 pm, April 5

Registration Forms and Information available: WUU Office and Narthex or see Donna Stanford

### Upcoming Events

- February 16-22: COFM Homeless Shelter Week
- February 23: Rainbow Potluck
- February 23: Book Discussion "Behind the Kitchen Door"

### Links

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