

WUU news

Monthly Newsletter of Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists



Some Dates of Note

10.1

Navigators Monthly Meeting

10.8

The Odyssey

10.15

Leadership Team Meeting

10.17

Grounds Day

10.19

PFLAG

10.21

Pathfinder Book Group

10.22

Let's Color

10.23

4th Friday Family Potluck

10.25

Rainbow Potluck

D. Robbins Piano Recital

Words from Rev. David A. Johnson, Interim Minister

Transition Musings: Interim Minister's Letter



Yesterday we gathered to celebrate a major milestone in the GOOD NEWS of this congregation. We praised the skillfulness and dedication of so many who paved the way for our Groundbreaking ceremony with their labors and with their generosity of time and resources. They have entrusted this congregation's future to us. We shall be watching with eager anticipation as the new building takes shape before us.

I'm pleased to announce three Adult Enrichment Series which I shall be leading during the fall months. Previews of each of these series are in this month's newsletter. I encourage you to participate, as your time allows:

- Wednesday evening series (before choir): **"Of Bonds and Binds: Fables for Our Time"**
- Monday noon series: **"Leading Change in the Congregation"**
- Tuesday noon series: **"A Relational Vision: I Seem to Be a Verb"**

One more opportunity, just for fun: Join Diann and me at the Movie Tavern at High Street for the Saturday afternoon series "Live from the Metropolitan Opera." Performances usually begin at 1:00 pm, ending around 4:30 pm. After each show, let's migrate over to Panera (or a similar coffee spot) to re-hash the performances. The first in the series, on Saturday October 3, will be Giuseppe Verdi's Il Trovatore. You may recall -- this is the opera which the Marx brothers lampooned mercilessly in their 1935 film "A Night at the Opera." Verdi's plot for Trovatore is convoluted. Even so, the demands on the four principal vocalists make this a memorable work (with thrilling choruses, to boot!) Join the fun, and meet us for these Saturday afternoon extravaganzas. I have a special interest in the Met: their Chorus Master (Donald Palumbo) was my first choral director in Boston, long ago (~1980). For me, choral and orchestral music remains an essential source of health and wholeness.

All good wishes in these fascinating times.
Rev. David A. Johnson, Interim Minister

October Worship Schedule

October 4, 2015

9:15 am & 11:15 am

Rev. David Johnson

"Strange Happenings in the Woods"

Worship Associates: Nan Hart, Lily Bolling

"Never talk to strangers." So says the moral of "Little Red Riding Hood" and other children's stories. Is this a moral lesson that you would wish to pass along to your children and grandchildren? In the years since the traumas of 09/11, what have we learned about being genuinely open to strangers -- including those with whom we may profoundly disagree? The politicized rhetoric is intensifying as Election Day 2016 approaches. Amidst the deeply-divided landscapes we'll re-tell some familiar legends and consider their implications for today. Bonus: Music and lyrics from Stephen Sondheim's Into the Woods.

October 11, 2015

9:15 am & 11:15 am

Rev. David Johnson

"Anxiety: The Price of Freedom"

Worship Associate: Richard Costello

In this first of several sermons on Family Systems, we'll consider anxiety -- the price that we must pay for freedom. Biologist Lewis Thomas observes that humanity has "always been a specifically anxious creature with an almost untapped capacity for worry; it a gift that distinguishes us from other forms of life." Is there a way out -- or a way to navigate wisely through the turbulence?



October 18, 2015

9:15 am & 11:15 am

Rev. David Johnson

"Staying Calm & Courageous, No Matter What"

Worship Associate: Eva Burke

"It is very hard to be who we are," wrote Norman Lear, "because it doesn't seem to be what anyone wants." A sermon on the politics of self -- and the obstacles, resentment, and sabotage that inevitably will arise whenever one defines oneself clearly and responsibly.

October 25, 2015

9:15 am & 11:15 am

Led by Eva Burke and Pat Hoppe

"Pastoral Care"

The theme for October 25 is Pastoral Care which is a job for each member of WUU. Sharing their experiences of pastoral care, both receiving and giving, will be Eva Burke and Pat Hoppe. Come join the connectedness that binds us together and creates the spirit of belonging that each one of us seeks in life, whether we are young or old or in-between. Lily and Stacey Bolling perform on the flute and the piano.

Our Minister will be speaking at the UU Congregation of Greenville North Carolina.



Office Hours

The WUU office is open:

- ◆ 9am-2pm Monday - Friday

Rev. Dave Johnson has office hours:

- ◆ Noon-3pm Monday -Thursday

Austen Petersen, Director of RE, has office hours:

- ◆ Noon-3pm Monday - Thursday.

Sometimes these times change due to meetings, vacation, etc. Feel free to call first (757) 220-6830 to check our availability.

“Of Bonds and Binds: Fables for Our Time”
Adult Enrichment Series, Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists
Wednesdays, 6:15 pm to 7:25 pm; Nursery (or Narthex)

This year I will convene a series of conversations that relate to principles of Family Systems. We will focus upon *Fables*. Why fables? Imaginative stories transcend the limits of once-only, historically-verifiable events. Fables convey truths that are broader and more enduring than “actual” occasions. The fables in this series are from an anthology entitled *Friedman’s Fables* (1990), written by one of the leading authorities on family systems theory, Rabbi Edwin A. Friedman. Each week we will read one of the fables, and then consider questions-for-reflection that Friedman has suggested for each fable. We will be especially alert for their implications for our personal lives, our relationships, and the communities of which we are a part.

In the prologue to his anthology, Dr. Friedman observes:

“[I have lived] for three decades in the Washington metropolitan area, intimately involved in our species’ three major systems of salvation: politics, religion, and psychotherapy. I have observed a whole generation go by of families, governments, and modes of therapy, struggling to discern the illusion of change from the reality that things are pretty much the same. Why has all the intelligence that has advanced so many other areas of civilization not worked nearly as well in the improvement of our species itself? Is it that human nature is simply human nature?”

The characters in these fables have a role other than the part they play in their own plot. They are iconoclasts. The illusions they aim to shatter are:

That communication is a cerebral phenomenon rather than an emotional process;

That insight will work with people who are unmotivated to change;

That resistance to your message can be overcome by trying harder;

That seriousness is deeper than playfulness.”

The fables are grouped into four categories: “The Failure of Syntax”; “The Demons of Resistance”; “Bonds and Binds”; and “Reptilian Regressions.” Each fable stands alone. Thus it’s fine to attend individual sessions according to your schedule and degree of interest.

You may **sign up** for this series by calling the Minister (269-330-8495), or the WUU office (757-220-6830). Although registration for the series is not required, doing so will help me in logistics preparations. As always, participants’ contributions and reflections will determine the focal points of interest, and the relevance of the series.

Dave Johnson, Interim Minister



Mark Your Calendars—Grounds Day
October 17 at 9:00 (Rain date: October 24)



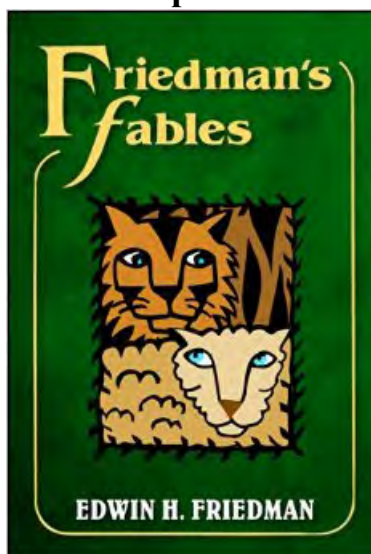
Bring your shovels, rakes, clippers, etc. so we can clean up around the campus. We will also be removing bricks, fences, etc. that we want to save in preparation for the site work with the reconstruction. This is a multi-generational, equal opportunity activity.

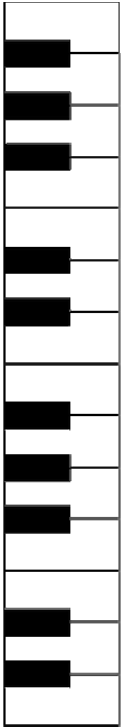
Contact Information: Fred Bergmann fandbergmann@cox.net (757) 220-8183 or Les Solomon les.solomon@gmail.com (757) 645-2565



Here is the current schedule of dates and titles of Fables for this series:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Fable</i>
<u>Part I: The Failure of Syntax</u>	
Wed 07 October	“The Bridge”
Wed 14 October	“A Nervous Condition”
Wed 21 October	“The Friendly Forest”
Wed 28 October	“Round in Circles”
Wed 04 November	“Projection”
Wed 11 November	“Raising Cain”
<u>Part II: The Demons of Resistance</u>	
Wed 18 November	“The Power of Belief”
Wed 02 December	“Soaring”
Wed 09 December	“Net Results”
Wed 16 December	“Metamorphosis”
<u>Part III: Bonds and Binds</u>	
Wed 13 January	“Intermezzo: Oedipus, Faust, and Cassandra”
Wed 20 January	“Symbiosis”
Wed 27 January	“Attachment”
Wed 03 February	“Jean and Jane”
Wed 10 February	“Cinderella”
<u>Part IV: Reptilian Regressions</u>	
Wed 17 February	“Caught in Her Own Web”
Wed 02 Mar	“The Wallflower”
Wed 16 Mar	“Panic”
Wed 30 Mar	“Burnout”
Wed 06 April	“Narcissus”
Wed 13 April	“Tradition”
<u>Part V: Epilogue</u>	
Wed 20 April	“The People of the Charm” (by Rev. Peter Steinke)





Special Piano Recital

Acclaimed local pianist, Dave Robbins will perform a solo concert on **Sunday, October 25th at 4:30 pm** in the WUU sanctuary.

Tickets will be available from choir members and at the door: \$15 for adults, \$10 for students, children 12 and under are FREE. The program will feature several improvisations, as well as performances of Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op. 109, Ravel's

Ondine and Chopin's Scherzo No. 1 in b Minor. A classically trained pianist with a gift for improvisation, Dave graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music and is currently pursuing his PhD in Arts Education at VCU. He is the pianist for Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists and a regular performer with other local groups such as The Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Richmond's Coalition Theater, the Hardywood Cover2Cover Band, Capitol Opera Richmond and the Richmond Ballet. Dave also serves as Assistant Deputy Director for Classical Revolution RVA—a Richmond-based collective of passionate musicians whose goal is to integrate classical music with Richmond's vibrant music scene by taking this universal art form out of its glass case and into local bars, restaurants, cafes and galleries.



“Leading Change in the Congregation” Adult Enrichment Series

*Six Mondays, 12:00 - 1:15 pm, brown-bag lunch: Parker House conference room
Rev. Dave Johnson, facilitator*

This series addresses the question: How might congregational leaders manage transitions effectively, amidst the anxiety which always accompanies change? We will build upon presentations by Gil Rendle and Peter Steinke at “UU University,” a series of all-day workshops at recent UUA General Assemblies. Our text for Sessions 5 and 6 will be *Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change*, by William Bridges. Come to one session or to as many as you wish.

DATES

TOPICS

October 12:	Leading Change; What Leadership Is and Isn't
October 19:	Rollercoaster of Change; Stories as a Leadership Tool
October 26:	Making Better Stories to Live
November 02:	The Emotional Dynamics of Leadership
November 09:	Managing Transitions, I: Letting Go
November 16:	Managing Transitions, II: The Neutral Zone



BROWN BAG
Lunch Series

A Relational Vision: “I Seem to be a Verb”

An Introduction to Process / Relational Theology

Adult Enrichment Series:

Three Tuesdays: December 1/8/15; 12 noon – 1:15

Parker House conference room (brown-bag lunch)

“There is a creative tendency in the universe to produce worthwhile things, and moments come when we can work with it and it can work through us. But the tendency in the universe to produce worthwhile things is by no means omnipotent. Other forces work against it. This creative principle is everywhere. It is a continuing process. Insofar as you partake of this creative process you partake of the divine; and that participation is your immortality, reducing the question of whether your individuality survives the death of the body to the state of irrelevancy. Our true destiny as co-creators in the universe is our dignity and our grandeur.”
-----Alfred North Whitehead

During my final semester of divinity school, I studied with Prof. John B. Cobb, Jr., a guest lecturer. His course on Process Theology was transforming for my life and ministry. His insights have opened pathways for me to re-discover a compelling worldview that is fully consistent with my lived experiences. In my 28 years of ministry since then, I have found that many Unitarian Universalists who were raised in traditional churches or synagogues have come to value Process / Relational theology as a compelling voice echoing our UU Principles and Purposes.

<i>Session / Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>
1 Tue Dec 01	The Relational Vision; The Self
2 Tue Dec 08	Human Experience; God as an Outgrowth of Human Experience
3 Tue Dec 15	God and the Experience of Evil and Power; Spirituality in a Global Perspective

VIDEOTAPE RESOURCE:

“A Relational Vision: John B. Cobb Jr.” (lectures and interviews), Center for Process Studies, Claremont, CA, 8 parts, 3 videotapes).

OPTIONAL TEXT:

Christ, Carol P., *She Who Changes: Re-Imagining the Divine in the World*, 2003

WEBSITE for resources, indexed: <http://www.ctr4process.org/publications/Biblio/Thematic/>
Center for Process Studies, 1325 North College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711.

Website: www.ctr4process.org

Building Our Future: ..and we are off!!



In last month's newsletter, I was sitting on the "WUU tarmac" waiting to take off with our construction, not knowing if everything would work out—

- Would the Virginia Department of Historical Resources (DHR) sign off on the archeological release? **Result: Yes, they did and we have the JCC permit to proceed with construction!**
- Would all the pieces come together so we can sign a contract with E.T. Gresham to proceed with construction? **Result: Yes, E.T. Gresham has already requested that site work begin on October 5.**
- Would the weather hold out so we could have an exciting and memorable ground breaking ceremony on September 20? **Result: Yes! Thanks to the efforts of many people, we broke ground. I especially liked Austin and our children filling the treasure box with dirt from the ground breaking. Next summer, that dirt will be distributed on the new RE grounds!** Afterwards, it was fun watching as Lily Bolling and Bob Tschannen-Moran, on hands and knees, kept on digging. They unearthed a brick and a top of a sardine can! Who knows what else we will find—we hope it will not be of any archeological significance.

By the time of our next newsletter report, I anticipate that there will be earthmoving equipment on site and a road constructed back to the BMP retention pond to facilitate access for equipment needed for the repair and expansion work to take place.

So, yes, we are off the tarmac, and the dream that we have shared for so many years is actually unfolding before our eyes!

Les Solomon, BOF Chair



From the Board President

My news is short this month since my husband, Dave , and I are in the midst of moving to a smaller home. By the time you read this, we'll be getting settled in our new abode. Then I'll get back to the routine.

You are well aware of the recent exciting celebration of ground-breaking. I hope all who wanted to dig with a shovel or hands were there to do so. If you missed it, come by anytime, find the strip of clear-cut earth and turn some over. I have signed the contract with E. F. Gresham, our general contractor, so that now actual construction work can begin within just a few days.

Please stay aware of all the other events taking place or being planned and join in. One area that needs help is the Visitors' Table. Could you spend a few minutes before and after a service to greet new people, invite them to make a name tag and sign up to receive the newsletter, and offer them literature and information about WUU? It's a fun way to share our great community with those who come in the door for the first time. Check with the Membership Team to offer your assistance.

May your October be filled with joy, excitement of seeing our expanded spaces start to become a reality, and peace.

Lola Warren, Board President



Religious Education

CREW: WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES! Early last October, members of the WUU Board and Leadership Team and newly appointed Director of Religious Education (DRE) Austen Petersen spent a Friday evening and most of the following day participating in a "Religious Education startup weekend." Chris Faia and Susan Walkley agreed to co-chair "the Council on Religious Education for Children and Youth" (CREW) to work with Austen to develop policy and support for programming for pre-kindergarteners through high school students and college campus ministry. CREW helps recruit teachers to lead lower and upper elementary, middle school and high school (YRUU) groups. Several CREW members also teach. Joined by the Membership Team and with special help from Catherine Laarhoven (a member of both groups!), CREW organized last December's Yule Sing. We ushered in 2015 with "Secret Friends" and marked spring with an Easter Egg hunt. CREW ended this "church year" with the very successful Hogwarts Summer followed by a terrific teambuilding workshop for RE teachers. WUU Religious Education happens because we are blessed with a corps of committed volunteers who teach RE classes and lend their time and talent to create and support other special events and activities!

In addition to supporting UU learning and fun for children and youth, CREW maintains order and a welcoming environment in Fahs House and provides consultation regarding RE needs to the Design Build Team planning our new facilities. CREW's charter and current programming, including the FALL 2015 schedule, can be found on the WUU website (under LEARN & GROW) and on Facebook (WUU Families).

Questions? Want to join CREW? Ask Austen Petersen or one of the other CREW members: Jacqui Winther, Susan Walkley, Anne Luchsinger, or yours truly, Chris Faia.

Lower Elementary: Creating Home Pre-K, K, 1, 2

This program, part of the Tapestry of Faith series, helps children develop a sense of home that is grounded in our Unitarian Universalist faith. Together, we will ask questions about the purpose of having a home, for us as humans and for other animals. The program introduces the concept of a "faith home"—our congregation—which shares some characteristics with a family home. Like a family home, a faith home offers its members certain joys, protections, and responsibilities. Children explore the deep sense of sacredness, the beauty of hospitality, and the gift of loving relationships that a home can represent. Watch for small differences in children's respect for one another and their engagement with the wider congregation as they learn to identify their Unitarian Universalist congregation as a home.

Upper Elementary: Holidays & Holy Days Grades 3, 4, 5

Holidays are the natural, age-old vehicle of religious socialization. A holiday is not something to talk about; it's something to DO. We have chosen holidays which in some way lift up a value we affirm, or address a universal human response to life. We honor both the diversity and particularity of cultural tradition, and at the same time the commonality of the human condition. "Under the sky, all people are one family" as Sophia Fahs reminds us, quoting an old Chinese proverb. Each Sunday session will bring something fun to celebrate. Check the calendar for the different topics!

Middle School: D'oh God (Simpsons) Grades 6, 7, 8

This curriculum uses the animated television series *The Simpsons*, to help youth discuss important social issues and spiritual beliefs with peers. Competing for a youth's attention can be difficult today. Widespread television viewing, video game playing and internet surfing has created an environment where youth need visual stimulation to maintain interest. Pop culture can help to channel this environment into a learning opportunity, allowing youth to examine ethical and theological issues, while having fun.

Talking about sensitive issues with peers can be daunting, particularly if the youth lives and goes to school in a conservative atmosphere and knows that his/her viewpoint is not necessarily shared by the majority of his/her peers. Referencing a television show, a movie, a song, or a website can help youth express their opinions to others.



Register



Use our online form to register your child (ren) for Religious Education. Go to: <http://goo.gl/forms/1xXc78az2u>

Or pick up a registration form in the Narthex

FALL 2015
WUU FAMILIES & WORSHIP CALENDAR

Dates	Type of Service	Service Themes RE Class Topics: (L)ower Elementary PK-2, (U)pper 3-5, and (M)iddle 6-8 Programs <i>Reverend Dave's Sermon Topics</i>
September 13	All ages service	Water Ceremony <i>Sermon: Notes from the Open Road</i>
September 20	All ages service	Ground Breaking - Fall Equinox - Yom Kippur <i>Sermon: Forgiveness/ Starting Over: A Door Set Open</i>
September 27	All ages service	Nature
October 4	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: On the Threshold U: St. Francis Day M: Bart Gets an F <i>Sermon: Strange Happenings in the Woods</i>
October 11	All ages service	<i>Sermon: Anxiety: The Price of Freedom</i>
October 18	Children's Chapel: QiGong	All kids together: QiGong with David Hamilton <i>Sermon: Staying Calm and Courageous, No Matter What</i>
October 25	Children's Chapel: Circles	All kids together: Circles with Melinda Morgan
November 1	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Symbols of Faith U: Intro to Holidays & Holy Days M: Homer and Lisa <i>Sermon: Candide's Dilemma: Beyond Good and Evil</i>
November 8	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Beehive U: Maulid al Nabi M: Bart Sells His Soul <i>Sermon: Compassion: The Paradox of Caring</i>
November 15	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	L: Animal Homes U: Wampanoag Thanksgiving M: In Marge We Trust <i>Sermon: Dancing in the Productive Zone of Disequilibrium</i>
November 22	All ages service and all music service	St. Cecelia Service
November 29	All ages service	Thanksgiving
December 6	Children's Chapel: Drumming	Hanukkah All kids together: Drumming with Bentley Cobb <i>Sermon: The Thing With Feathers: What Are You Hoping For?</i>
Friday December 11	Yule Sing	Yule Sing 6pm! <i>Fa, la, la, la, la...</i>
December 13	RE Program in Fahs and Parker	Beethoven's Birthday L: Home in Nature M: Dussehra M: Lisa the Skeptic <i>Sermon: The Trials of Job and Ludwig: When the Tofu Hits the Turnstile</i>
December 20	All ages service	Winter Solstice <i>Sermon: Mary Had a Little Lamb: Divine Foolishness?</i>
December 27	All ages service	

Do you know every WUU? Neither do I.

That's why we want to include a brief member biography in every newsletter.

Maybe you'll discover someone who shares your background, interests, or hobby. Maybe you'll learn something new about someone you already know. Or maybe you'll be moved to reach out to someone who needs to hear from you.

Please help us strengthen the WUU community by sharing your story. Together, we can weave a growing web of friendship, support, compassion, and love. Melissa Ackley, ackleymw@gmail.com

Spotlight on Hans von Baeyer



When WUUs mention my name, they are likely to be thinking of Franz Gross, who was, who was featured in the July 2015 Newsletter. And vice versa. Indeed, like the Austrian bodybuilders Hans and Franz on Saturday Night Live, we have a lot in common. We're both theoretical physicists retired from William and Mary. We both attended the Williamsburg Unitarian Fellowship which preceded WUU, we're both charter members of WUU and between us we have served on quite a few committees. We're both happily married and enjoy our children and grands. We've both worked at the Jefferson Lab in Newport News. And once we even took our sons on a camping trip in the Blue Ridge Mountains (it rained all night.) But we're not really identical. To tell us apart, please remember that I'm the one with the beard and the fresh Harry Potteresque scar in the middle of my forehead. A mnemonic: Hans alliterates with Harry.

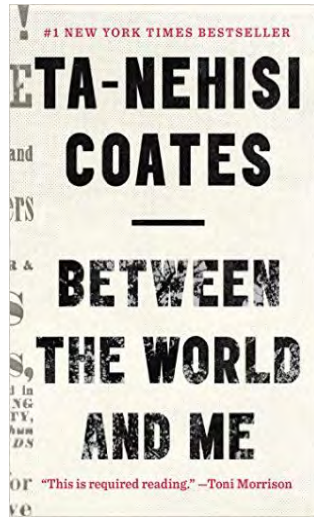
I was born in Berlin, Germany, whence the arc of my life took me to Switzerland, Canada, and finally Williamsburg, where I have spent almost half a century. So I'm practically a native. After the demise of the Williamsburg Fellowship, I joined the Newport News congregation, along with Linda Lane-Hamilton and several other locals. When Linda called me to suggest that tooling down I-64 every Sunday morning was becoming tiresome, that some of us were pining for a regular minister in a place of lay leaders, and that we had plenty of like-minded friends (like Franz) to sustain our own church, I was delighted to join in. The rest is WUU history. David Hamilton and I became the first worship committee of the fledgling group. I am a bit pedantic, and he is a bit more spiritual, so we started by defining what we meant by the word "sermon." I have forgotten what we came up with, but since then I have proudly addressed the WUU congregation from the pulpit every now and then.

I'm 77 years old now and slowing down. With my wife Barbara, a retired art history professor at W&M, I spend a lot of time tending our garden, near downtown Charles City, and scribbling my last book. Barbara is not a UU, but in view of her unstinting support of congregational activities our daughters Madelynn and Lili have dubbed her a U, an honor she wears proudly. We are looking forward to participating in WUUs climb to the next level in the coming years. Together, we're determined to age gracefully.

Book Discussion

Thursdays, October 29 and November 12th, 7pm,

led by Dr. Eileen O'Brien, Professor of Sociology at St. Leo University



These two discussions will take place at the Williamsburg Regional Library, Schell Room. Open to the public—please join us and bring a friend.

Parenting and raising a child is a life-changing event that softens and hardens us all at once, but in the context of white privilege, there exists a vast chasm between the kind of parenting whites are able to do and that which African Americans must resign themselves to if their child is to survive and thrive. Though we share a common humanity, we inhabit completely different worlds, despite living and working side-by-side in America.

Toni Morrison has called Coates the next James Baldwin. In interviews about his book, Coates has been clear he had no intentions of sugar-coating his voice for a white audience. This is a passionate testament about the deeply profound and personal effect that racism has on the most intimate relationships that humans have—their loving families, torn asunder by the cruelty of white supremacy—no matter how much money, status, or education they have achieved.

Support the UUSC-UUA Refugee Crisis Fund



As the world faces the greatest refugee crisis since World War II, the UU Services Committee [UUSC] and the Unitarian Universalist Association [UUA] have jointly launched a special emergency response. UUSC must raise \$250,000 to give their crisis response team the resources they urgently need to reach out to the most vulnerable people caught up in this humanitarian crisis, especially women and children.

WUU will have the opportunity to support UUSC through our Special Collection on October 11. You may also send a check in to the office with Refugee Crisis in the memo line.

Remember: “The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is a human rights organization powered by grassroots collaboration. In more than a dozen countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. UUSC’s innovative approaches and measurable impact are grounded in the moral belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights.”





ODYSSEY: WUUs meet in the sanctuary building, on the second Thursday of each month. We bring a little lunch to share along with stories about who we are. We listen and talk and laugh and drink a little coffee while we get to know each other. Very informal — this is your invitation. Most of us are at least AARP types, sometimes more. Come and find us! If you need a ride, contact either Al McKenney (aem28@verizon.net) or Lee Hougen (leehougen@gmail.com). Next meeting is October 8th.



WUU's Fall Auction will be held on November 14th. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we need YOUR help to make it possible! We are looking to fill several key positions in our Auction Committee! Please email Catherine Laarhoven at catnye75@gmail.com if you are interested in joining this team.

We need your help with donating items for our this Fall's Live and Silent Auction. Please consider donating handcrafted items, handmade jewelry and artwork, homemade edible treats, and opportunities for unique experiences. Tickets to musical and sporting events are a big hit, as well as dinners and outings with members of our community. Do you have a special gift or talent you could share with us? You can find donation forms in the Narthex or through a link found in the spiral. Donations forms should be returned by Sunday October, 11th.

Tickets will go on sale October 11th. You can purchase them between services or during business hours in Parker House.

Thank you for your help in making this year's auction a success!

Share the Plate



The Share the Plate collection for **Sunday, October 4**, will be donated to FISH. FISH, Inc. is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit agency providing help to the residents of the Greater Williamsburg area. FISH depends ENTIRELY upon WUU and the generous community in order to provide food, clothing and transportation to medical appointments. FISH always needs financial donations to buy new socks and underwear and to stock the shelves with food and to pay the rent. Please be generous in supporting this important organization, and please continue to donate food items to the RED WAGON located in the WUU lobby. For more information on FISH, visit: <http://williamsburgfish.weebly.com>

WUU has a long history of supporting FISH. Did you know that the original FISH food pantry was located in Fahs House? WUU member Hanni Sherman was instrumental in creating the FISH clothing closet, and Delores and Wayne Moyer started our Christmas program where we collect socks and underwear.

For more information on the Share the Plate program and to nominate a recipient agency e-mail stp@wuu.org

What is WUU's Lay Pastoral Care Program?

As our congregation grows, more pastoral care is needed than one minister can provide. The Lay Pastoral Care Program is an extension of the Minister's own pastoral care presence and a way to ensure a caring presence is sustained.

The **Lay Pastoral Care Program** comprises two teams: the Caring Ministry and the Lay Pastoral Care Associates.

The **Caring Ministry Team** stays in touch with congregants in need of support on a short-term basis, making phone calls and occasional visits, sending cards, and arranging for other caring services such as meal delivery. Ellen Graham and Liz Snyder co-chair the Caring Ministry Team and can be reached at caringchair@wuu.org or through the WUU office.

The **Lay Pastoral Care Associates** are trained to offer sustained care to congregants undergoing stressful life challenges. Martha Elim, David Hopkinson, and Pat Hoppe serve as Pastoral Associates, working with our minister, Rev. Dave Johnson, who can be reached through the WUU office or at his email revdaj@aol.com.

The two program teams operate under and report to the minister, accepting his referrals. Team members are volunteers trained to provide needed support to the WUU community. Additionally, the teams offer related programs throughout the year that can be directly accessed by members of the congregation.

The Minister, Lay Pastoral Care Associates and representatives from the Caring Ministry meet monthly to coordinate program services, support one another and receive training.



Help wanted:



Just last week, the judge who oversees John Hinckley's integration into the community approved our request to enable John to have greater access to the Internet for our book sales experiment. Thus, we are ready to implement this program to sell books online following the successful model that the UU Fellowship of the Peninsula in Newport News has been using for several years.

Our objectives are these:

- Continue to reach out to John through interaction, providing life purpose, and to bring others into John's community of friends.
- Create a new revenue stream for WUU and John, with the possibility of expanding it to other areas.

I still need some help--Someone who is willing to meet with John and me for a few hours each month to evaluate, price, and post the items (there are plenty of easy-to-use online tools to do this). Previous experience with online sales would be nice but not a requirement. Our vision is that, with our supervision, John can take over most of the processes. Personally, I have enjoyed my work with John, and I believe that others will as well.

Please contact me for more info at 202-1909 or les.solomon@gmail.com

Les Solomon



Fall Weekend Retreat!

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula (UUFPP) is holding their fourteenth annual retreat at **Pocahontas State Park** the weekend of **October 9-11**, and they have invited the folks from WUU to attend! It'll be a great few days of food, fellowship and fun, enjoying workshops, games, music and other activities; the natural beauty of the park and lake; worship indoors and out; evenings at the campfire; and, of course, delicious meals! You can come Friday evening and stay through Sunday morning for the full experience (including lodging in one of the cozy cabins) or just spend Saturday at the Retreat! More information to follow. You can also visit this link: <https://uufp.wordpress.com/2015/07/10/coming-this-fall-the-fourteenth-annual-retreat/>



Food For FISH **(our local community's food & clothing pantry)**



October is here and already there is a little chill in the evening air. Let's fill the FISH wagon with spaghetti sauce and pasta and canned beans and rice. The need is great and the wagon has not been very full. Your donations are much appreciated! Thank you!



WUU Youth ♥'s FISH

Each month this year we are asking our WUU young people to donate to FISH, the local group that provides food to families in need. Some children you go to school with may not have enough to eat at home.

YOU CAN HELP!

Each month we will ask you to bring a different food item for the families in Williamsburg who are in need. We will name a "food of the month" as a suggestion. Anything that a young person would like to eat and is healthy and is in a can, box, or jar and has a current "best before...." date is perfect!



The FISH wagon is by the front door of the sanctuary and there will be a green bucket there as well for you (the children and youth) to put your food in!

A WUU volunteer will take the food to FISH each week. Let's fill the bucket!
Thank you all!



October is canned beans month!



WILLIAMSBURG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

3051 Ironbound Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 220-6830

www.wuu.org office@wuu.org

Lola Warren, President

president@wuu.org

Rev. David Johnson, Interim Minister

revdaj@aol.com

Pat Hoppe, Newsletter Editor

TIME SENSITIVE

CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE!

Looking for a way to acknowledge a friend or relative's special day? Why not make a contribution to the WUU Endowment Fund in their name? We will then send out a letter acknowledging that the WUU Endowment Fund has received a gift from you in the name of that special person. What a unique way to recognize an occasion! For a Memorial Gift Form, contact Endowment@wuu.org.

(To add your name and month to the birthday and anniversary list, contact Ellyn Stephens in the office at office@wuu.org.)



October Birthdays

October Anniversaries

Cindy Frezek and Sally Fisk

Ana and Ralph Romero

John Bensel

Lily Bolling

Ellen Busching

Ann Jo Cosgrove

Dave Cosgrove

Ben Dorsett

Judy Flores

Carl Friedrichs

Susan Fournier

Aly Haynes-Traver

Beverly Levinson

Ivonne Luchs

Ülkü Nouri

Bobby Oliver

Ralph Romero

Richard Scherer

Liz Snyder

Roy Snyder

Joan Sprigle-Adair

Dawn Traver

Larry Ventis

Susan Whitley

Chris Wilcox

Tallie Winter