



# WUU NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
WILLIAMSBURG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

FEBRUARY 2018



*"This morning I have been pondering a nearly forgotten lesson I learned in high school music. Sometimes in band or choir, music requires players or singers to hold a note longer than they actually can hold a note. In those cases, we were taught to mindfully stagger when we took a breath so the sound appeared uninterrupted. Everyone got to breathe, and the music stayed strong and vibrant... So let's remember the advice of music: Take a breath. The rest of the chorus will sing. The rest of the band will play. Rejoin so others can breathe. Together, we can sustain a very long, beautiful song for a very, very long time. You don't have to do it all, but you must add your voice to the song."*

—Michael Moore



## You Belong

BY REV. LAURA HORTON-LUDWIG

This month we kick off our annual giving campaign, when we ask each member and friend of this congregation to make a pledge of financial support to WUU for the coming July–June program year. It's a time to celebrate and be inspired by the generosity of this community. To celebrate each and every gift given in love for this congregation and our Unitarian Universalist faith, sustaining us and helping us move into the future. To be inspired by the hope and confidence you have in our future, of which your financial gifts are just one manifestation.

**Continued on Page 2**

And it's a time to remember: it takes all of us to support this community. But, as Michael Moore reminds us, that's the good news! Just as singers in a choir "stagger their breathing," singing when they can, breathing when they need to, so we at WUU are asked to give as generously as we can, when we can. For each of us, there may be seasons of life when we can give abundantly and consistently. And there may be seasons when it takes every penny we have just to get by.

Every year at this time, I have conversations with congregants that tug at my heart. Folks who are financially strapped, dealing with many obligations, who feel guilty that they're not able to give more. Sometimes they wonder if they even have a right to be here if they can't give financially. And, oh, my friends, if this is you or anyone you know, I've got a message for you:

You.  
Belong.  
Here.

It doesn't matter how much money you have.  
It doesn't matter how much you can afford to give.  
If you are drawn to this congregation,  
if your spirit has found a home here,

you belong here.  
Period.

The fact is, we live in a society that isn't fair. We all know the statistics about income inequality in this country—it's extreme and it's growing. That means some of us have a great deal of money and some of us have very little. But each of us has the same spiritual worth, and that worth is infinite and precious and unquenchable. In this community, we give what we can, we receive with gratitude, and together—  
together we sing, and breathe, and the song is beautiful, and we hope and trust that it will last a long, long time to come. May it be so!

In faith,

Rev. Laura



## Teen Auction Volunteers

Thursday evening February 15th 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Help the Auction and have a Pizza Party!



The auction invites teenage volunteers to come help with auction setup. Come move some chairs and have fun with a pizza party! Arrive and leave whatever time works best for you.

# February Worship Schedule

## FEBRUARY 4

9:45 & 11:15 am

**"Charter Sunday:  
Looking Back, Moving Forward"**  
Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig, Minister

As we dig into February's theme of perseverance, let's celebrate the perseverance of this congregation! In this all-ages, family-friendly service, we'll celebrate Charter Sunday, the anniversary of this congregation's founding. We'll tell the story of a UU ancestor whose perseverance led to the birth of our faith on these shores. And we'll get ready to kick off our annual giving campaign in support of our future.

The WUU membership book is open for signing today by those who have completed our Pathway to Membership classes or those transferring from another UU congregation.

## FEBRUARY 11

9:45 & 11:15 am

**"Cultivate and Abandon"**  
Ben Thacker-Gwaltney, Guest Speaker

One way to explain Buddhism is as a set of practices designed to train the mind for awakening. This work sometimes feels a great deal like preparing a garden for Spring. There are things that are useful to cultivate, and other things that it makes more sense to remove.

This sermon will explore abandoning our mind's demands around permanence, an enduring self, and suffering. On the other hand, Tibetan Buddhism identifies the four characteristics of an awakened mind. They are the Brahma-Viharas, the divine abodes, the Four Immeasurable Jewels. Moving from one to the other is the practice of waking up.

## FEBRUARY 18

9:45 & 11:15 am

**"The Beautiful Mystery of People!  
Exploring the Unpredictable Spiritual  
Practice of Loving Others"**  
Steve DeLaney, Guest Minister

We are, every one of us, a mystery. One of the great temptations of our times (and all times) is to forget this, and to submit to the dangerous idea that I am one dimensional, easily understood, easily defined; and so are other people. The work of love - seen as a spiritual practice - is the work of remaining faithful to the beauty, the goodness, the unknown, the mysterious, the possible in each person. With stories, poetry, and humor, we will explore how we might find ways to open up in new ways to those we love, and maybe also to those we find it hard to love!

## FEBRUARY 25

9:45 & 11:15 am

**"Let it Go"**  
Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig, Minister

Sometimes, no matter how hard we persevere, things just don't work out the way we'd hoped. How do we let go and live well in the presence of failure and loss?



## Pathway to Membership Class

Our Pathway to Membership class is an ideal way to learn who we are as Unitarian Universalists and also a way to learn more about our WUU congregation. If you are new and would like more information about us, or are considering becoming a member, or are already a long-time member and would like a refresher, then this is the class for you. The class will be held in 2 parts, Sunday, February 11 and Sunday, February 18, 12:30-2:45pm. We will meet in room 108. If you are interested, please contact David Hamilton (dfhamilton108@gmail.com) or Peter Mellette (peter@mellettepc.com)



## Share the Plate

Share the Plate for Sunday, February 11 will benefit Navigators USA Chapter 36



Navigators USA is a nationwide scouting organization committed to providing a quality scouting experience open to all children and their families, regardless of gender, race, religion, economic status, sexual orientation or social background. Since 2013, Chapter 36 has been working to provide a modern, inclusive, co-ed scouting program for families in the Williamsburg community. WUU's sponsorship and support has made it possible for area youth, including the children of this congregation, to explore the great outdoors through campouts, hikes, rock climbing adventures and many other activities. The group conducts monthly outdoor excursions on a Saturday in the second half of each month, often accompanied by a meeting on the first Thursday of the month. For more information, please contact: Dan Moore danartmo@yahoo.com, Greg Caldwell greg.caldwell@cox.net, or James Tysz james.tysz@gmail.com.

To nominate a Share the Plate recipient agency, email [stp@wuu.org](mailto:stp@wuu.org).

## More on Share the Plate

One side benefit of STP is that our congregation becomes more familiar with the support net of community resources. By introducing the recipient agency through the monthly WUU Newsletter – see item above – and in the weekly Spiral, followed by brief remarks from the pulpit by an agency representative, we learn of the services provided for those in need in our community. Some STP groups enjoy high visibility, with well-publicized fundraisers, etc., but, more often than not, the name and the work of an agency may be unfamiliar to us. So by sharing our generosity, we in turn become a bit better informed.

# Spiralology: The Story of the WUU Spiral

as told by its maker Pat Winter



The Spiral was first discussed by Bill Geary and me in 1989. We wanted something that would make visible the congregation to itself. A form that had instant readability on many levels, that appealed to both intellect and our senses. It was to be a symbol of our congregation and a chart of our progress. It could be used to celebrate the passing of a year, an important event for the church, or for individuals who made significant contributions to the congregation.

The Spiral was chosen because it symbolizes life and infinite growth. It is found throughout nature, from the exquisite chambered nautilus to the profound spirals of DNA. Everywhere we find it, we see evidence of the divine. Its pattern of growth creates its shape, and not the reverse. In a similar way, our personal and communal growth is determined by a set of principles, our Covenant, and not by a dogmatic creed.

It is made from a common metal, copper, that symbolizes the congregation's composition of ordinary people capable of extraordinary things like getting together and making a congregation.

Each year at Charter Sunday we bolt to the Spiral another symbol of time passed and things accomplished. Looking ahead, we see in the Spiral new challenges and opportunities by which the life of our church will continue to grow.

Join us on February 4 for Charter Sunday as we celebrate another year together as a congregation.



## Does the Cold Weather Have You Down?



The WUU Yard Sale is right around the springtime corner! Please mark the following dates on your calendar: **Friday, May 18th (evening)** and **Saturday, May 19th**. Stay tuned for more information in upcoming Spirals and newsletters. Our co-leaders are Peggy Weiss, Pat Russo, and Katrina Landon (under the mentorship of Ruth Hopkinson.) If you have any large furniture items that you wish to donate, after the auction concludes, please email us at [yardsale@wuu.org](mailto:yardsale@wuu.org).



## Auction News

# WUU CIRQUE DES RÊVES Auction

## Saturday, February 17, 2018

The Cirques des Reves Auction is shaping up to be an exciting, fun-filled, sold-out evening. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17. A very small number of tickets are still available for purchase (\$30/person) at [WUU.org](http://WUU.org).

The evening will begin with a social hour and Silent Auction in the Gathering Hall, with wine and beer flowing and featuring festive jazz music from our own Hamed Barbarji and his quartet. Enjoy a full-course French-themed dinner (with vegetarian/vegan options) in the Sanctuary. The Live Auction featuring auctioneer Tommy Hardin will cap off the evening. John "Rio" Riofro will serve as 'ringmaster' throughout the evening.

The auction catalog will be available online to all ticket-paying attendees prior to the event. Auction-goers can browse the catalog and plan their bids. Items in all price ranges are available, including several attractive Raffle prizes, as well as a number of fixed price 'buy it now' items at reasonable prices.

Here is just a sampling of the many wonderful auction items that will be available:

- A framed lithograph by Chaim Gross (valued at \$400)
- An Irish weekend dinner for 8 in the donor's home
- A cruise on the James River
- A 3-night stay at a vacation cottage on the Outer Banks
- A bed-and-breakfast getaway in Charlottesville with tickets to Monticello and dinner at a local restaurant
- A variety of jewelry items
- A variety of homemade baked/cooked items
- Handmade craft items and clothing items
- A Pinot Noir Wine Tasting for 8 with appetizers, dessert and coffee
- Variety of restaurant gift certificates
- Items for kids
- One hour of one-on-one yoga instruction
- Grilled salmon/wine sunset dinner for 8 overlooking the James River
- Many, many more items

There is still time to donate items. Please turn in donation sheets (available online at [WUU.org](http://WUU.org)) by February 5 in order to get the items in the catalog. Actual delivery of items should be made to the church during the two weeks prior to the auction (February 4-15)

When you come to the auction, expect to have fun, be well fed, enjoy wonderful music and entertainment, and fellowship with friends. AND plan to come home with some great purchases. The auction is the place to purchase items that you would otherwise buy somewhere else, with funds that are part of your household budget: eating out, vacation trips, recreation, gifts, household items, etc., as well as wonderful gifts for others. The bonus is being able to contribute to WUU's mission!

The committee wishes to thank the countless individuals who have stepped up to purchase tickets, make donations of auction sale items, and volunteer for the many tasks needed to make this a truly memorable event.

Jessica O'Brien, Chair (on behalf of the entire Auction Committee)

## Calling on Creative WUU's!

The beautiful gathering hall provides additional floor space for WUU's and guests to mingle and chat before and after services. For first-time visitors, the entrance area between the front door and the sanctuary is especially important. It's this space, with its high walls, that newcomers first see upon entering the building.

We want a first-time visitor, of any age, to feel that WUU is a safe and friendly place. The walls above the entry area provide an ideal spot for a simple visual statement of who we are.

Plans are underway to include, in that center area, a few colorful, vertical banners, hung perpendicular to the walls. Along the lower unbroken portion of those walls, our Unitarian Universalist Principles can be displayed in an attractive, legible font. The lettering is attached to the walls like a decal and is completely removable. Making these ideas a reality will require thought, research, and choices. We want to be bold and creative while projecting a feeling of warmth and welcome to all.

If you are interested in participating in one or both of these projects, please check the next Spiral for the date of the first "Aesthetics Brainstorming Session." If you have questions, please email them to [aesthetics@wuu.org](mailto:aesthetics@wuu.org) or see Donna Stanford.

### THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

We, the member congregations  
of the Unitarian Universalist  
Association, covenant to affirm  
and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity  
of every person

Justice, equity, and compassion in  
human relations

Acceptance of one another and  
encouragement to spiritual growth in  
our congregations

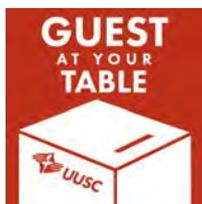
A free and responsible search  
for truth and meaning

The right of conscience and the use  
of the democratic process within our  
congregations and in society at large

The goal of world community with  
peace, liberty, and justice for all

Respect for the interdependent web of  
all existence of which we are a part

### Three cheers for WUU!



Together, we raised a total of \$1,335.79 to donate to the Guest At Your Table initiative. Funds were sent to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee with big thanks owed to Lindsay Usher for all that she did to help publicize and encourage us toward our goal of helping others. Way to go, Lindsay!

## Middle School Our Whole Lives Parent Orientation Meeting



### Our Whole Lives

Sexuality Education for Grades 7-8

The parent orientation meeting is required for any child to participate in the program.

February 4, 2018  
Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists  
Room 110  
6 PM

For children enrolled in grades 7 or 8 or equivalent.

We are so thankful to our wonderful volunteers who are making this program possible. Please save the date on your calendar for a parent orientation if you would like your child to participate in the OWL program this year.



## Annual Giving Campaign Starts Now!

Our Annual Giving Campaign begins on

Sunday February 4th and will continue thru the end of March.

Discussions sessions will be held after each service on the 4th.

If you are not able to attend, you will receive pledge information in the mail.

Our goal for the coming fiscal year is \$350,000!!

Where are we now in the life of WUU?

- Our Settled Minister, Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig, is in place to provide spiritual, administrative and congregational guidance.
- Our new facility has exceeded our expectations and will support our growth as a spiritual community.
- The capital campaign is over, perhaps freeing up some additional funds for our expanded WUU programs
- What does this mean from a financial standpoint?
- The annual cost of achieving our WUU mission is about \$2,500 for each household, of which 80% comes from our pledges
- Last year, households that pledged the year before increased their commitment on average of over 6%.

Please plan to attend one of our kick-off sessions and consider how your gift will help us grow!

## Transgender 101

### Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

### Sunday April 15, 2018

Transgender 101 is a foundational discussion to improve understanding of biological sex, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation. The training will be provided by Planned Parenthood of Greater Richmond, Virginia. We have two sessions which are developmentally appropriate. We ask participants to please stay for the entire training.

Session 1: Middle School

Room 110

11:30-12:30

Contact: Austen Petersen, [Austen@wuu.org](mailto:Austen@wuu.org)

Please RSVP by April 8th, 2018.

Session 2: Adults

Room 110

12:45-1:45

# Board Report

Our monthly Board meeting covered a range of topics with our Annual Congregational Meeting in Sunday, February 25, taking center stage. As usual, this is primarily a business meeting to elect officers to the various committees and to consider recommended changes in our By-Laws.

The work of the **Nominations Committee** is one the most important WUU responsibilities because their nominations lead the way for the leadership team for the next few years. The committee reaches their decisions based upon lengthy interviews with current officers, followed by interviews with the candidates. It's more than filling a slot; rather it is a thoughtful process of balancing skills, diversity, experience, and commitment to WUU's mission and values. There might be a bit of arm-twisting that goes on as well. Their task is almost completed. Make certain to thank Linda Lane-Hamilton, Susan Walkley, and Charlotte Lorentson for their hard work!

Our **By-Laws Committee**, chaired by Roger Baldwin, with members Dave Stanford and Elaine Themo, thoughtfully considers the Board's recommendations for needed changes. After checking with WUU attorney, Peter Mellette, they craft their recommendations into a tight document that attempts to keep it simple and concise. By-Laws are not meant to cover everything; rather, the By-Laws provide the legal architecture upon which we build our WUU community. The By-Laws recommendations this year are designed to address the question of absentee ballots.

Behind the scenes, Susan Fournier, Board secretary, keeps the rest of us on target to make certain that you receive the proper notices, we have an efficient check-in process, who is eligible to vote, etc. Of course, that requires coordination with the office staff.

The board also considered the following at the January meeting, all receiving Board approval:

- Franz Gross, **Strategic Planning Committee** chair, reviewed their work with the **Program Council** and recommended that the Committee be empowered to consolidate the findings from the various groups that are seeking to match their current responsibilities with six primary goals identified in the draft strategic plan. Many of WUU's team members will be asked to work on this task.
- Franz, **Personnel Committee** chair, reported on a new model for the minister's evaluation, the result of working with Rev. Laura. The model, using appreciative inquiry practices, offers a creative way to accomplish this important work. Additionally, Franz recommended the salary package for Rev. Laura for the next year.
- Jim Kent, **Finance** chair, provided a first look at the draft budget. The final budget, however, will be set once we complete the annual pledge campaign. No action was needed at the meeting.
- Michael Coirin, presented an overview of the work that Joe Cross, our **Facilities Manager**, is doing, along with a budget recommendation for next year.

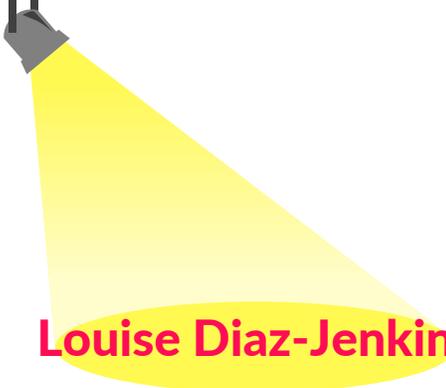
Your Board has spent much of its time in December and January dealing with matters discussed in the letter sent by Rev. Laura and me in January. We will continue to focus part of our work on this topic.

In the interim, lets get ready for a great and successful auction. I look forward to seeing what our creative teams have been doing to transform WUU into the **Cirque Des Reves!**



Les Solomon,  
WUU Board President

## Member Spotlight



**Louise Diaz-Jenkins**



I'm pleased to introduce myself: my name is Louise Diaz-Jenkins. I joined this congregation after my husband and I moved to Surry County in 2006. We lived in Essex County, New Jersey prior to moving to Virginia. I had been a long-time member of The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Essex County there and was happy to find this congregation in Williamsburg. My first introduction to service here was as a member of the Second Sunday Team which I enjoyed. Since then I served as a member of the Caring Committee and am currently a member of the Pathfinder Book Club. My husband and I have both enjoyed the fellowship of the circle dinner rounds over the years. I am looking forward to being a co-facilitator for the Soul Matters Small Group Ministry this Spring. My husband Joe and I have a blended family of five; three sons: Guy, Khalil and Grant and two daughters: Joyce and Tia. We are blessed to have six grandchildren and one great-grandson. Our cat, Sasha, was sent to us from NJ when we first moved here.

I retired from New Jersey City University in 2002. My last position there was as Director of Pre-College Programs, administering both federal and state funded programs for Jersey City high school students. The title and description cannot convey the wonderful experience it was to work with high school and college students, the staff, the parents and to have the support of the University and its faculty and staff. It was an extraordinary time.

Before NJCU, I was employed by Thomas A. Edison State College, a then new non-traditional college in its third year of existence. My last position there was as director of the Statewide Information Network for Education (SINE).

Joe and I have found it remarkably easy to adjust from our urban pace and commuting to living in a rural community. We're both somewhat active in a couple of community groups in politics and history. We enjoy exploring the history of the area, and appreciate living close to Williamsburg and Yorktown and the proximity to Richmond and Newport News. We also appreciate that when we get cabin fever we're in close proximity to trains and planes



## **From the UU Christian Fellowship: Get Your Tickets to "Equipping Resistance"**

The 2018 UU Christian Fellowship Revival is March 16-17 at the First UU Church of Richmond, Virginia, and you're invited! The theme is "Equipping Resistance" and we will provide theological and spiritual grounding for people engaged in any way in the Resistance. In addition to incredible speakers, we'll have a hymn-sing, a documentary screening, plus delicious food and time to reflect and connect. We're honored to have the powerful gospel choir Rev. D. Kay Logan & Nu Beginning before we open for baptism. Two days that will make your entire year. [www.uuchristian.org/revival2018](http://www.uuchristian.org/revival2018).

# Our Social Justice Team Looking for Initiative Leaders

Jessica Sapalio and Helen Hansen, Social Justice chairs, are looking for a few enthusiastic leaders to lead the following initiatives:

- Our Green Sanctuary certification is in need of re-certification. The UUA has many project ideas and our congregation has expressed great interest in environmental issues. 2018 would be a great year to renew.
- Social Justice adult book group - Our youth have been participating in a lively book club. Adults have expressed interest in the Common Read and other justice-related books to read and discuss. No experience required. As you know, we UUs love to discuss!! Just set some dates and advertise!
- Communication - We would love to have a table every Sunday with information regarding our social justice projects, legislative issues, local issues, environmental, or any justice-related events in the community. We need a leader for a communication team.
- Any other social justice activity that you would like to present to the chairs will be enthusiastically received.

At our social justice luncheon and the activity fair, a large number of WUU's expressed interest in supporting justice activities. We have the names, but just need people with the passion and time to help engage those volunteers in actions.

Please contact [sjchair@wuu.org](mailto:sjchair@wuu.org) if you are interested in joining the social justice council as a project leader. All ideas are welcome!!!

WILLIAMSBURG LIBRARY THEATER  
PROGRAM BEGINS EACH SUNDAY AT 3:00 P.M.

# CELEBRATING

## CULTURAL HERITAGE 2018

IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH



**FEBRUARY 4TH—THE BOYS CHOIR OF HAMPTON ROADS**  
The Boys Choir of Hampton Roads (formerly Park Place Boys Choir) was organized in September 1997. The Boys Choir is honored to have had the opportunity to perform with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra as well as Af'ram Fest, Arts Within Reach, Jubilee on the James, M.L. King Memorial, and Nauticus to name just a few. This remarkable group is lead by Julius E. McCullough, Artistic Director & Geraldine T. Boone, Founder/Accompanist.  
SPONSORS: LeCercle Charmant, NAACP/ACT-50 and WMSBG The Men's Club



**FEBRUARY 11TH—THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED**  
DRAMA WRITTEN BY MINISTER DELORES J. HINES  
This Drama is an illustrated sermon inspired by the Holy Spirit. This illustrated sermon depicts an 85 year old woman (Mabel) who is telling a story to her granddaughter about some saints who lived a life sold out to God. She is telling this story to encourage her to continue on the road less traveled. Come and see how this drama unfolds.  
SPONSOR: The Historic First Baptist Church on Scotland Street



**FEBRUARY 18TH—CORA ARMSTRONG, VOCALIST**  
Powerful and emotional songstress with a deep rich immediately captivating voice. Specializes in gospel music. She is also a composer, recording artist, and is a favorite Gospel Music performer at festivals and celebrations around the country and abroad. She's performed in several cities in and around Europe with Stellar Award Winner, Min. Earl Bynum.  
SPONSORS: Union Baptist Church and the Virginia State University Alumni Association-WMBG Chapter, and contributor - New Zion Baptist Church on Longhill Road



**FEBRUARY 25TH—THE 3 TENORS**  
The Three Tenors feature the vocal talents of Charles Bell (Tenor) Pervis Omar Blake (Bass-Baritone) & Dr. Aaron J. Butler (Tenor) under the musical direction of Reginald Fox. Combined these individuals have performed with the Virginia Opera Association, Air Force Academy Chapel, Chamber Ensemble with the York River Symphony Orchestra and many more. This presentation brings together a dynamic vocal performance that will be unforgettable.  
SPONSORS: Delta Sigma Theta Alumna - WMBG Chapter and GWWA-The Greater Williamsburg Women's Association

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND.**

Click picture of flyer for more information

## SAVE THE DATE

The Lemon Project &  
50-Year Commemoration Symposium:  
Building On the Legacy  
MARCH 16-17, 2018

Featuring  
Keynote Speaker:  
**Nikki Giovanni**  
Writer and University Distinguished  
Professor Virginia Tech



Registration now open:  
<http://forms.wm.edu/34470>

**CALL AND NOTICE FOR SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**VOTING PROCEDURES (INCLUDING ABSENTEE)**

**NOTICE**

Agenda Items:

Approval of Minutes, Report of Nominating Committee, Election of Board Members, Election of Congregational Committee Members, Consideration of By-Laws Revision

DATE: Sunday, February 25, 2018

TIME: 20 Minutes after end of 11:15 AM service

PLACE: Main Sanctuary

All are welcome. Members will vote. Childcare will be provided.

**WHO MAY VOTE**

All members are urged to attend and vote.

**NOTE:** A quorum of 20% (~48) of members with voting privileges is required to conduct business. It is VERY important that you attend.

Please be reminded that the voting requirement includes having signed the membership book and having made "an annual financial contribution of record to the operating fund" during the 12 months prior to the voting date.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS WITH VOTING PRIVILEGES**

Contact the church office

Office staff will verify your voting status

When verified, an absentee ballot will be provided

(US Mail, Pick-up in person, only in unusual/rare circumstance via electronic means)

**US Mail or Drop-Off**

Complete the ballot & place it in a sealed envelope

Write your complete name on the outside of the envelope only

Submit your completed ballot in the sealed envelope to the WUU church office

**Electronic Means** (only in unusual/rare circumstance)

Receive ballot image

Print out the ballot image & mark

Scan or photograph the actual ballot document

Submit the actual ballot image via electronic means to office@wuu.org

(marked ballot image will be printed, placed in a sealed envelope with voter's name on the outside only)

ABSENTEE DEADLINE: NOON, 48 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING DATE

**ALL BALLOTS ARE DUE BEFORE NOON US EASTERN TIME ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018.**

Questions? Contact the WUU Board Secretary, Susan C Fournier (757-532-9254-voice, voice mail, text)

**Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists**  
**Revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws Proposed for Adoption**  
**Annual Winter Congregational Meeting – February 25, 2018**

**Summary** These proposed revisions are intended to 1) more clearly define the absentee voting process & its applicability, and 2) clarify 2 additional articles unrelated to absentee voting.

**NOTE:** Where used, underlining indicates added language, strikethrough indicates deleted language.

**Current**

**ARTICLE V. Voting**

Absentee ballots are permitted on propositions (1) that are known sufficiently in advance for the absent member to be informed, and (2) that in the opinion of the Secretary of the Board have not been substantially changed by the time the vote is counted. Members may not vote by proxy.

**PROPOSED REVISED ARTICLES TO FURTHER DEFINE ABSENTEE VOTING.**

**ARTICLE V. Voting**

1. When a congregational vote is called for by any article of these Bylaws, absentee voting is permitted on propositions (1) that are known sufficiently in advance for the absent member to be informed, and (2) that, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Board, have not been substantially changed by the time the vote is counted.
2. Absentee ballots and the process for absentee voting shall be Board-approved. Absentee ballots must be received by the WUU office by noon on the second day before the day of the vote.
3. Members voting by absentee ballot shall not be counted toward quorum requirements contained in articles of these Bylaws unless present at the meeting.
4. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

**ARTICLE XI Ministers**

2. Ministers shall be called upon recommendation of the ministerial search committee by a four-fifths majority vote of the members present **or voting by absentee ballot** at any Congregational meeting properly called for the purpose. A quorum for such a meeting is to be constituted by one-half of the members.

[The identical inserted revision phrase as used directly above will also be inserted in:

**ARTICLE XI. Ministers**, paragraph 3 (dismissal of minister)

**ARTICLE XV. Amendments**]

**ADDITIONAL MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSED REVISIONS**

**Proposed to avoid confusion by eliminating the term “voting members”.**

**ARTICLE VII. Board**

1. The Board shall be composed of nine ~~voting~~ members, **with voting privileges**, who shall have been members of the Congregation for at least...

**Proposed to update language**

**ARTICLE XVI. Effective Date.**

The effective date of the Constitution and Bylaws ~~shall be~~ **was established as** July 1, 1989, if **those documents having been** adopted prior thereto by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at a meeting called for ~~this~~ **that** purpose. A quorum for this purpose ~~shall be~~ **was** constituted by one-third of the voting members.