

Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church Unitarian Universalist

717 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903

434-293-8179 * www.uucharlottesville.org

Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 1 pm

OUR COVENANT: *In order to create the beloved community we all desire for ourselves, we, the Congregation of TJMC Unitarian Universalist covenant to:*

- *Communicate with compassion and respect, especially when we disagree*
- *Celebrate diversity and nurture our inclusivity,*
- *Embrace one another spiritually and emotionally,*
- *Promote social justice within our congregation and the larger community,*
- *Generously support the ministries of the church with time, money and enthusiasm, and*
- *When we have fallen short, lovingly call each other back into covenant.*

GETTING STARTED AT TJMC-UU

1. Make Contact. Visit the Greeters in the foyer before our services, and visit our Connections Table in the Social Hall after the services. Let us help you meet someone else.

2. Try us out. Come to several Sunday services and stay for refreshments in the Social Hall; attend a smaller-group event; have a conversation with our minister. Get to know someone!

3. Come to an Orientation. Next Newcomers Orientation will be October 16, Sunday, 1-2:30pm. Sign-up at the Connections Table or contact Jean Newland at jeannewland45@gmail.com.

4. Join us, become a member! If you have been visiting for a while and feel you have found a church home, stop by the Connections Table in the Social Hall after the service or contact one of our Ministers.

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In-Gathering Water Communion

September 4, 2016

10:00 am

This month we're asking: *What does it mean to be a community of covenant?*

GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

SOUNDING THE CHIME

WORDS OF WELCOME

Whoever you are, Whomever you love,
However you express your identity;
Whatever your situation in life,
Whatever your experience of the holy,
Your presence here is a gift.
Whether you are filled with sadness,
Overflowing with joy,
Needing to be alone with yourself,
Or eager to engage with others,
You have a place here.
We all have a place here.
We all are welcome
here.

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

Water flows from high in the mountains.
Water runs deep in the Earth.
Miraculously, water comes to us,
And sustains life.

Water and sun green these plants
When the rain of compassion falls,
Even a desert becomes an immense, green ocean. (Thich Nhat Hanh)

PRELUDE

PREPARING

OPENING WORDS: *"To Whom Does the Land Belong?"* (as retold by Faye Mogensen)



A TIME OF PRAYER AND MEDITATION

MUSICAL RESPONSE "Water Overflowing"

REFLECTIONS

MEDITATION HYMN #1064

"Blue Boat Home" (vs. 2)

OFFERTORY AND EXTENDING OUR COMMUNITY

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

We accept these gifts with gratitude.
May we use them wisely and for the highest good.

GOING DEEPER

A CEREMONY OF WATER AND LIGHT

At this time you are invited to form a line in the center aisle and come forward to pour the water you have brought with you into the common bowl. Feel free to think on where and when this water came from and what it means to you, and to offer a silent hope or prayer for the year to come. This is also the time to light a Candle of Hope & Remembrance or write in the Sands of Forgiveness & Atonement.

MEDITATION HYMN #1064

"Blue Boat Home" (vs. 3)

BLESSING THE WATER/BLESSING ONE ANOTHER

The young and young at heart are now invited to come forward to bless the water with these words: "With all of our hope, with all of our courage, with all of our love ... in the name of all that is Good we bless this water."

MUSICAL RESPONSE: "Water Overflowing"

RETURNING TO THE WORLD

PARTING WORDS: *"The Sign of the Tassel"* (as retold by Faye Mogensen)

HYMN of GOING FORTH

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

POSTLUDE

Ushers: Gloria Morgan and Dick Somer