

**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 is Sunday, July 17, 11:30am-1pm. Sign-up at the Connections Table or contact Jean Newland at [jeanneuland45@gmail.com](mailto:jeanneuland45@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.

**Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church**  
(Unitarian Universalist)



**The Blessings of Belonging**

May 1, 2016

9:15 & 11:15 am

**Staff**

Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom,  
*Lead Minister*  
Rev. Alexandra McGee,  
*Assistant Minister*  
Leia Durland-Jones,  
*Director of Faith Development*  
Christina Rivera,  
*Dir. of Admin. & Finance*  
Caroline Heins,  
*Religious Education Assistant*  
Scott DeVeaux, *Dir. of Music*  
James Smith, *Pianist*  
Wendy Steeves, *Office Assistant*

**2015-16 Board of Trustees**

Laura Horn, President  
Sally Taylor, Vice President  
Karen Ransom, President-Elect  
Ann Salamini, Secretary  
Amy Davis, Treasurer  
Marlene Jones  
Walt Megoinal  
Breck Gastinger  
Katharine Maus  
David Mick  
Anita Holmes

**GATHERING THE COMMUNITY**  
SOUNDING THE CHIME

GREETING & WORDS of WELCOME (*Social Justice Spotlight: Emotional Wellness*)

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.

PRELUDE "Sonata in G Major," 1st movement, Paul Hindemith

KINDLING THE CHALICE

We live together on this earth  
It is our home  
And we are part of it  
No less than trees, and zebras, and butterflies  
We light this chalice  
In celebration of this world.

OPENING HYMN #360 "Here We Have Gathered"

WELCOMING CEREMONY FOR NEW MEMBERS

*John Anderson, Ed Barber, Jen Edelson, Ann Forno, Marc Goldberg, Sarah Jacobson, Kimberly Knotts, MJ Lightbody, Michael Martin, Terry Lee Martin, Katherine Parsons, Samantha Rasnic, Charles Richardson, Robert Reid, Suzanne Reid, Elizabeth Tice, Peter Walpole*

**Formal Members of the Congregation:** We who have previously formalized our membership in the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church community, welcome you as you now take this step. We honor your courage and are grateful for your commitment. We invite you to participate as fully as you can in the life of our religious community, offering your whole selves – strengths and weaknesses both – to this tapestry we weave. We pledge to affirm the inherent worth and dignity in each of you, to bear witness to the unity that underlies it all, and ask you to do the same for us.

**New Members:** We affirm the community we join today – its reverence for the past, its vision for the future and its passion to live fully in the present. We seek to live in harmony with one another and with the earth, ever striving to narrow the gap between our dreams and our reality. We affirm that faith in community and relationship will hold us fast in the inevitable times of storm and challenge.

**Everyone Present:** Long-time and newly formalized members, first time visitors, and those of us in-between – we are one community. May these words and these acts of welcome serve to renew our covenant with one another. May we go forward with greater resolve to give of our gifts and our talents in order to realize our vision for this church community and for the larger community of which we all are a part.

HYMN #298 "Wake, Now, My Senses" (vs. 1, 4, 5)

**CENTERING**

SHARING OUR JOYS & OUR SORROWS

PRAYER – SPOKEN, SILENT AND EMBODIED

MEDITATION HYMN #1031 "Filled With Loving Kindness"

**GOING DEEPER**  
REFLECTIONS

RevWik

**RETURNING TO SERVICE IN LIFE**

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.

CLOSING HYMN #1028 "The Fire of Commitment"

CLOSING WORDS

POSTLUDE

Altar decorations provided by **Sharon Utz** in memory of her mother, Kathleen Williams and her sister, Judith Williams.

Thanks to those who wove our worship this morning,  
including each and every person present.

Ushers: 9:15: **Ann Salamini, Burnie Davis and Sandy Brooks**

11:15: **Elizabeth Breeden and Sarah Peaslee**

