

*Sunday Services, 11 am*

March 5—Dr. Shirley Ranck

***The Global Woman:*** A celebration of women through the ages in honor of women's history month.

March 12—Jennifer Ryu

***Why Are You U?*** A new, comprehensive study of the religious lives of teenagers reveals some surprises. What are the spiritual needs of the youth in our community? Even as they seem to push away from adults, might they be looking for spiritual role models and guide? The YRUU group will participate in the service.

March 19—Preston Moore

***Love behind Enemy Lines—the Practice of Radical Generosity***

When we look beyond family, friends, and neighbors to strangers, outsiders, and adversaries, does our conception of generosity shift? What is at stake for each of us spiritually when we declare what generosity does and does not mean? Join us for a fresh look at a value we often take for granted.

March 26—Dr. Shirley Ranck

***Celebration Sunday:*** Come enjoy a belated Mardi Gras and celebrate the gifts we make to the future of this congregation.

*Shirley's Cauldron*

I was in London for a week recently with my daughter Laura and my old friend Maeona. One evening as we were walking



back to our hotel from the nearby pub, we saw a strange looking animal walking down the sidewalk across the street from us. One of us said, "Too large for a cat." Another said, "Doesn't look like a dog." The third said, "What *is* that anyway?" As it came closer, we all said with one surprised voice, "That's a fox!" We didn't think we had that much to drink at the pub, but it was hard to believe our eyes. Back at the hotel we told the clerk about it and he just shrugged.

The next day the newspaper headline was about "slaughtered foxes." It seems that there are thousands of these critters living in London's parks and gardens and one man took a shot-gun and killed about eight of them.

On Sunday I visited the Essex Unitarian Church and at the coffee hour I mentioned the fox to a woman. She said, "Oh yes. There are so many! I have a very small garden but there is a fox that lives there. He comes out and suns himself from time to time."

Yes, we did the museums, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Globe Theater, Windsor Castle, and saw a play starring Diana Rigg. But I suspect that the most memorable event of our trip will be seeing a real live fox on a London sidewalk. *Blessed be! Shirley*

### *From the Top Spot*

Over the past few months a development has been evolving that has been interesting to watch. It goes back to last calendar year when David Tetrault and I had a lunch engagement and discussed the possibility of his becoming our Chaplain to students at the College of William and Mary. The Board was approached and subsequently approved his nomination and he was named as our chaplain. Being the sort that David is, he couldn't rest until he went to the ultimate limit and traveled to Boston and discussed the role of Student Chaplain with UUA who welcomed him with open arms. He corresponded with them, determined what had to be done and set about doing it.

After identifying the group of students who identify themselves as UUs, David met with them and the group was formed. They are meeting weekly, at present, and shortly will be using the Wesley Foundation facility close to campus for their meetings. To date they have met at a local Coffee House, Aromas, and the results have been most rewarding for both students and Chaplain. His enthusiasm has been infectious and the students have enjoyed their association with a seasoned Chaplain and the Sunday service of February 12 was an example of our UU student members and their capabilities.

Members of that group of students, Shawna Kettyle, Adam Smith and Elizabeth Kade delivered our service that day and are an example of the next generation of UUs from whom we can learn much. If you haven't heard Adam's message for that day, it is available on our website (in MP3 format) and was a thoughtful and profound statement on Modernity. The music for the service was another example of UUs at work with students in that our own Dr. Jamie Bartlett brought her women's choir for a morning of inspiring music. The future is in good hands with this group! ***Fred Adair***

### *Chalice Gazing: Notes from the DRE*

This morning as I drove to Williamsburg, I noticed that the temperature was 18 degrees. The day before yesterday, it was 70 degrees. Is spring trying to figure itself out, I wonder? By the time you read this, WUU will have spent a day trying to figure itself out, and if we're lucky, and really deeply engaged, it will sometimes seem like 18 degrees and sometimes seem like 70 degrees. As I write this, the congregation-wide retreat is still several days away. As you read this, the retreat is over. Were you able to attend? What did you think? At this point, all I can say is that I am very glad to see so many people registered, especially so many children and youth.

Soon another big event in the life of Williamsburg UU will be taking place: Jennifer Ryu and Preston Moore will be spending a week here, visiting the congregation and getting to know as many of us as possible in such a short time. Please plan to take advantage of every opportunity you can to meet Jennifer and Preston during the week, and of course be sure to attend services, March 12 and March 19, to hear them preach. March 12 will be an intergenerational service, so there will be no RE, and Jennifer has graciously asked YRUU to participate in the service, since she knew that because of candidating week, YRUU re-scheduled the service they were supposed to do. Following the March 19 service, the congregation will vote on calling Jennifer and Preston to be our new ministers.

We are about to embark on a brand new adventure, filled with excitement and joy and uncertainty and possibilities that we cannot yet imagine. Please join us. You belong here.

Blessings,

***Sara***

## Ministerial Candidates Preston Moore and Jennifer Ryu



The Ministerial Search Committee proudly introduces Jennifer Ryu and Preston Moore as candidates for co-ministry. With their individual strengths and combined talents, Jennifer and Preston offer the WUU community an open-ended opportunity for spiritual growth, community outreach and pastoral care.

Their pulpit presence will create a special Sunday morning experience. Their remarkable intellects combined with compassion present a true model of speaking to the head and heart. Their previous world experiences, careers and participation as UU lay persons prepared them for the many possibilities within our community. More biographical information and their thoughts on co-ministry are detailed on our website.

We look forward to having the congregation meet Jennifer and Preston during Candidating Week, March 11-19. Per Jennifer and Preston's specific requests, this is a pastoral time – not a time for individual committees to hold meetings – but an opportunity for the congregation and the co-ministers to get acquainted. With this in mind, the MSC is arranging a wide selection

of “Meet and Greet” sessions during day and evening hours and at various locations. A detailed schedule for Candidating Week is included separately.

Of course, the week concludes with the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 19 at 12:30 for the sole purpose of calling the minister. Your vote counts!

The MSC invites you to participate fully as we embark on our new journey.



## WALT Spring Catalog arrives in March

The Williamsburg Area Learning Tree (WALT) Spring Catalog will be made public on Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup>. It will appear on the WUU web site and in the Virginia Gazette. Almost 40 offerings will be available, many of them new. Classes are often small and registration is first come-first served. Check out the catalog and get your registration in. WUU sponsors WALT as a community service

## TABERNACLE BAND



Spring is in the air and that means it is time for another appearance of the Tabernacle Band. We will play for the service on April 9, Palm Sunday.

This is a "no-fault" band for all instruments and for all ages. Even if you haven't played in a while, please join us for some joyful music. Jamie Bartlett is conductor. Contact Vicki Hall for music or more information.

## ***Candidates for Co-Ministers***



### ***Candidating Week Schedule March 11 – 19, 2006 Opportunities for Meet and Greet Sessions with Jennifer Ryu and Preston Moore, Co-Ministers***

The Ministerial Search Committee is pleased to offer numerous opportunities for informal get-acquainted sessions for the WUU congregation and the co-ministry team of Jennifer Ryu and Preston Moore. The UUA Settlement Handbook suggests adequate free time for the candidates to prepare for the worship services, meditate and relax as well as explore the area, house hunt and meet with the MSC. We have attempted to schedule day and evening receptions as well as various venues to give everyone ample opportunity to talk with our candidates.

Please join us as we welcome Jennifer and Preston to WUU for Candidating Week.

Saturday, March 11:

6:30 - 8:30 pm - Meet and Greet  
Reception – Sanctuary

Sunday, March 12:

11:00 - Worship Service – Jennifer preaches  
12:30 - 2:30 – Congregational Potluck – bring a dish to share  
Late Afternoon – Board meets with Jennifer and Preston

Monday, March 13:

7:00 - 9:00 pm – Meet and Greet  
Reception – Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 14:

11:30 - 1:30 – Brown Bag Lunch (bring your own) – Sanctuary  
5:30 – 7:30 – RE committee and teachers meet with Jennifer and Preston – Sanctuary - Potluck

Wednesday, March 15:

2:00 – 4:00 – Meet and Greet  
Reception – Home of Jim Kent  
6:00 – 8:00 – Choir meets with Jennifer and Preston Sanctuary – Potluck

Thursday, March 16:

6:00 – 8:00 – Meet and Greet - Home of Sam Jelinek (Sign-Up sheet) – Potluck

Saturday, March 18:

Early Evening – Pizza Party - Youth Group with Jennifer and Preston

Sunday, March 19:

11:00 – Worship Service – Preston preaches

12:30 – Congregational Meeting –  
vote to call Jennifer and Preston

## News from the Membership Committee

We welcomed two new members on January 5, 2006.

Lella Benison came to Williamsburg in March of 2004. She is a retired social worker who has recently moved to Williamsburg Landing, and is enjoying her new life there. We hope she will find that joining our loving congregation will add a new dimension to her retirement.



Abigail Adams came to Williamsburg in 2001 to attend the College of William and Mary, graduating in 2005. She decided she liked it here and stayed on. She works as a waitress, but finds time for many interests: hiking and camping, knitting, cooking, puppetry, music - she enjoys singing in the choir. She comes to us seeking a faith community that holds the same values as she.

We welcome these two new members and pledge our love and support.

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## **Motions of the Board, Feb. 16, 2006**

**1:** That the Board approve the FAHS House Lease as it is written.

Moved: Joe Fisler

Seconded: Jacqui Winther

Approved unanimously

**2:** That the Board approve the WUU Contractor Engagement Policy.

Moved: Jacqui Winther

Seconded: Fred Adair

Approved unanimously

## A Note from the Congregational Planning Committee

As this is written, the Congregational Retreat is still several days away, and the Congregational Planning Committee and the Board are expecting a forward-looking and productive discussion with about 150 WUU members and friends, young and not-so-young. This is an experimental step in garnering grass roots support for long range planning. Our religious society needs a coherent working plan for the next several years that will advance our mission and "enhance our spiritual lives"

You can expect to see solid results from our Retreat. Be willing to join in the ensuing conversations that will point the way forward. We have much to look forward to, and there is much to be done. Stay tuned.

Roger Baldwin, CPC Chair

The Mountain School for Congregational Leadership (MSCL) is sponsoring a program: *Focusing on skill-building in order to strengthen overall congregational leadership*. The dates are Sunday, July 23 – Saturday, July 29, 2006. The program costs 750.00. There is a limit of 40 participants. No applications will be accepted after July 1. For more information, see <http://www.mountaincenters.org/leadership.html#mscl>.

The Community of Faith for Peace or CF4P ([www.CF4P.org](http://www.CF4P.org)) has planned some events to commemorate the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Iraqi war. The events from March 18-22 include planting a peace garden behind the Methodist church, a speech by Peter Storey, (former chaplain to Nelson Mandela and bishop of South Africa), a candlelight vigil, a

and a film series. The films include excerpts from *Gunner Palace*, *Caught in the Crossfire: the untold story of Falluja*, and *The Dreams of Sparrows*. Contact Jessica at [socialaction@wuu.org](mailto:socialaction@wuu.org).

## PARKING SAFETY

When you park, please consider whether there is space for fire trucks and ambulances to pass. The inside and outside of curves are **NOT** for parking. Thank you for taking care.



## Guidelines for articles

General church-wide events (such as all church parties, sales, special presentations)—100 word limit

Announcements of interest to a smaller group of people (clusters, committee meetings, social action activities)—75 word limit

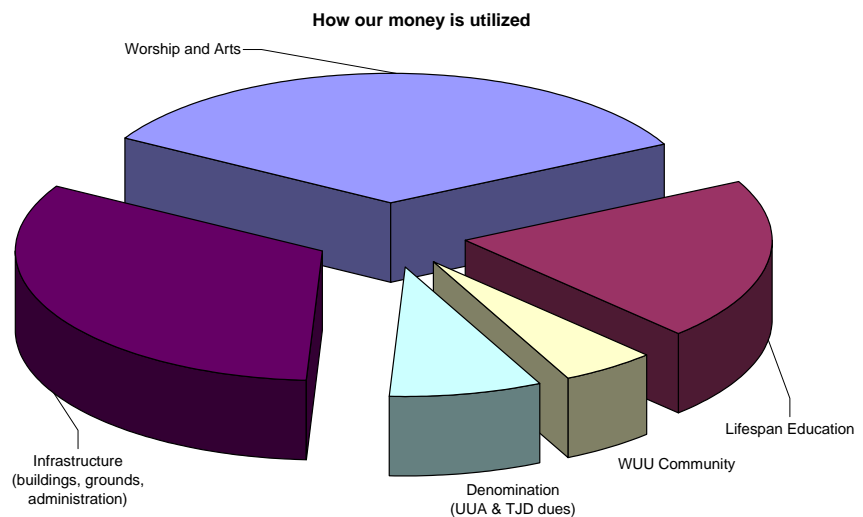
Focus articles—church program areas, board news, auction, pledging, written by staff or board member—300 word limit

Attachments are preferred to email.

Submissions must be related to WUU  
Deadline for April Newsletter: March 20  
[newsletter@wuu.org](mailto:newsletter@wuu.org)

## *A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS...*

As WUU prepares to start a new chapter in its existence, your Finance Committee has been working to make sure resources are available to make it possible. This can happen only with your active participation—pledges are our principal source of income. As a member of WUU, you pledge your time, talent, and resources to help make WUU possible. During the upcoming Pledge Campaign you will be asked to make that commitment—to keep our programs vital and our facilities sound.



**Mark your calendars—Saturday 25 March is the Canvass Gala Dinner.** Come join us for a catered dinner and delightful entertainment! You will be receiving your personal invitation in the near future.



## **Presents Peter Mayer in concert Friday, March 17th!**

We are delighted to once again welcome Peter Mayer to WUU! Peter has performed here twice before—the last time over two years ago—so please join us in welcoming him back!

Peter writes songs for a small planet—songs about interconnectedness and the human journey; songs about the beauty and the mystery of the world. Whimsical, humorous, and profound, his music takes you up mountains, across oceans, into space, and back home again. A native of Minnesota with a background in Theology, Peter is not big on love songs, but prefers delving into science, nature, and things spiritual.

Live Off Five! concerts are presented in the sanctuary. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., and performances begin at 7:30. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

For more information about the concert series, please contact Sherri Powers or Natalie Miller-Moore, or go to [www.wuu.org/liveofffive.htm](http://www.wuu.org/liveofffive.htm). For more information about Peter Mayer, check out [www.blueboat.net](http://www.blueboat.net).

## **WILLIAMSBURG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS**

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