

Participants in Today's Service

Reverend Paul Oakley is the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro, Virginia and has welcomed me into his pulpit.

Reverend Christina Hockman is the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi, Texas and was my “seminary sister” at Meadville Lombard.

Shelly Thompson is membership minister at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, Virginia and was in my first learning triad in seminary.

The Reverend Doctor Wayne Arnason was my first minister at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church in Charlottesville before serving at the West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church with his wife, the Rev. Kathleen Rolenz. He currently serves as interim minister at the UU Congregation of Sterling, Virginia.

Reverend Doug McCusker is the minister at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fredericksburg, Virginia and was one of the “upper classmen” who welcomed me into seminary.

Reverend Paul Boothby is the minister at the First Unitarian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia and coordinates our VA Cluster of UU Ministers meetings.

Reverend Jeanne Pupke is the senior minister at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, Virginia and served as my teaching pastor during my internship.

Reverend Jamie McReynolds is a chaplain and community minister who has supported my ministry as my beloved husband.

Ellen Plummer, president-elect of UUC and seminarian, is serving as marshal.

Gratitude

For all those whose support has brought me here—family, friends, mentors, and colleagues. Without them, this day would never have come.

For all the members of the UUC community whose warm welcome has helped make this feel like our home. Special thanks to the staff--Lisa Evanylo, Karen Hager, Jared Gibbs, Ella Kromin, and Rachel Craine—and all the many volunteers with whom sharing ministry is a joy and a privilege.

For my clergy colleagues in the New River Valley who have made me feel welcomed and offered their support.

All who made this day possible—those who traveled from afar and those who worked hard to create a beautiful celebration of worship and fellowship, including the Committee on Ministries and all they recruited to help.

Service of Installation of Reverend Pam Philips



Sunday, April 15, 2018
Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Blacksburg, Virginia

Prelude	<i>Prelude in B major, Op.28, no.11</i> — Chopin	Jared Gibbs
Processional Hymn	#358 <i>Rank by Rank Again We Stand</i>	
Welcome	Tim Pickering, President of UUC	
Chalice Lighting	Reverend Paul Oakley	
Invocation	Reverend Christina Hockman	
Greetings	Kathy McGowan, Congregational Life Staff, UUA Southern Region	
Hymn	#298 <i>Wake, Now, My Senses</i>	
Reading	Shelly Thompson	
Sermon	<i>To Ask about Virtually Everything</i>	Reverend Wayne Arnason
UUC Choir	<i>Wonder Blessing</i> -- Renzetti & Maziarz	
Offering	<i>The Living Tradition Fund*</i>	Reverend Doug McCusker
Offertory	<i>Our Evenings</i> — Leoš Janáček	Jared Gibbs

Act of Installation

President: In the Unitarian Universalist tradition, the authority and privilege of calling ministers rests solely with the congregation. After an extensive search process and a period of discernment from this congregation and from you, we voted to call you as our minister last May. Since then, you have moved to this community and have begun serving this congregation, in worship and pastoral care, representing us in the community, and administering this organization.

Pam, already we have recognized your calling to the ministry. With the members of the UU congregations in Charlottesville, Richmond, and Glen Allen, you have grown into that calling to this point. You have spent long years preparing for ministry, for this time and place. Now, on this day, we install you as our minister, to live and serve, to learn and love with us. Pam, are you ready and willing to undertake the commitments of this ministry?

Pam: I am.

Members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation: We, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation do hereby install you, Pam Philips, as our 5th settled minister. We would have you speak the truth in freedom and love, to minister to all people in their joys and their sorrows, to celebrate the many blessings of life with awe and joy, and to invite your people into lives transformed by service and shaped by the pursuit of justice.

President: I invite all those gathered here to rise and join the members of the UUC in affirming this installation.

Congregation: We, the gathered congregation, recognize and affirm you as the minister of this congregation. We rejoice with you on this occasion and offer you our continuing friendship and support. May your ministry be blessed in you and in all those whom you serve.

Pam: With profound gratitude for the many who have come before me, trusting in the strength, grace, and guidance of that power which has called me forth from among us, and with your continuing support, I joyfully take up the ministry into which you have called me.

Gift from the Congregation	Committee on Ministries
Isabel Berney, Dick Luke, Ann Norris, Bob Stimson, Barbara Taylor & Margo Walter	

Charge to the Minister	Reverend Paul Boothby
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Charge to the Congregation	Reverend Jeanne Pupke
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Prayer	Reverend Jamie McReynolds
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Recessional Hymn	#1028 <i>The Fire of Commitment</i>
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Extinguishing the Chalice and Benediction	Reverend Pam Philips
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Postlude	<i>Blue Boat Home</i> — arr. Gibbs	Jared Gibbs
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***The Living Tradition Fund** provides support for ministry, including need-based scholarships for theological school, new minister assistance to reduce the burden of high educational debt, and emergency assistance grants to seminarians, ministers, religious professionals, other congregational staff, retired ministers and their loved ones.

#358 “Rank by Rank Again We Stand”

Rank by rank again we stand, from the four winds gathered hither.
Loud the hallowed walls demand whence we come and how, and whither.
From their stillness breaking clear, echoes wake to warn or cheer;
Higher truth from saint and seer call to us assembled here.

Ours the years’ memorial store, honored days and names we reckon,
days of comrades gone before, lives that speak and deeds that beckon.
From the dreaming of the night to the labors of the day,
shines their everlasting light, guiding us upon our way.

Though the path be hard and long, still we strive in expectation;
join we now the ageless song one with them in aspiration.
One in name, in honor one, guard we well the crown they won;
what they dreamed be ours to do, hope their hopes, and seal them true.

#298 “Wake, Now, My Senses”

Wake, now, my senses, and hear the earth call,
feel the deep power of being in all,
keep, with the web of creation your vow,
giving, receiving as love shows us how.

Wake, now, my reason, reach out to the new,
join with each pilgrim who quests for the true;
honor the beauty and wisdom of time;
suffer thy limit, and praise the sublime.

Wake, now, compassion, give heed to the cry;
voices of suffering fill the wide sky;
take as your neighbor both stranger and friend,
praying and striving their hardship to end.

Wake, now, my conscience, with justice thy guide,
join with all people whose rights are denied;
take not for granted a privileged place;
God’s love embraces the whole human race.

Wake, now, my vision of ministry clear’
brighten my pathway with radiance here;
mingle my calling with all who will share;
work toward a planet transformed by our care.

#1028 “The Fire of Commitment”

From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear
Guiding hands and hearts and spirits into faith set free from fear.

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within,
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free,
Calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty.

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within,
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice,
Which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within,
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.