



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

A Place to Connect, Grow and Serve

August 2018 Share-the-Plates

August 5. Metro DC PFLAG . (<http://pflagdc.org/>) Metro DC PFLAG strives to promote the equality and wellness of the LGBTQ community and their families and friends through community support, educational opportunities, and advocacy efforts. Metro DC PFLAG sponsors 15 Community Groups across the DC area, including groups for adults, groups for youth, and groups with a transgender focus. Community Groups provide participants with the opportunity to share experiences in regard to sexual orientation and gender expression and how it affects their families.

August 12. UUs for Social Justice (UUSJ) (<http://uusj.net/wp1/>) UUSJ is a community of UUs that works to amplify UU voices through advocacy and witness for immigration reform, climate and environment justice, and reversing economic inequity - protecting the social safety net. UUSJ educates and mobilizes UUs to take action on these vital issues. The UUSJ Capitol Hill Advocacy Corps, includes more than eight UUCA members, takes our liberal religious messages to policy-makers each month. UUSJ is the only UU organization with a regular presence at the federal level, that includes delivery of our regular "Write Here! Write Now!" letters. UUCA is a founding member of UUSJ and church members have served in UUSJ leadership since its inception in 2000. To learn about becoming a UUSJ member for \$40 per year, visit <http://uusj.net/wp1/membership/>. Members can participate in the upcoming UUSJ member survey on priority social justice issues.

August 19. The Sanctuaries (thesanctuaries.org) activates artists to build power, shift culture, and heal spirits for the wellness of the people. With over 150 artists, a number of whom have shared their artistic gifts with us here at UUCA, The Sanctuaries transforms two of the most divisive issues of our time -- race and religion -- into positive forces for personal growth and social change. In fact, \$2500 sponsors the training of a local artist to become a community organizer working for beauty and justice in their local neighborhood!

August 26. Equality Virginia (EV) (<https://www.equalityvirginia.org/>) In Virginia and across the US, same-sex couples have the legal right to be married, but in Virginia it is legal to fire someone because they are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. In Virginia, it is legal to refuse to rent to someone because they are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. In Virginia, it is legal to refuse service in a restaurant or store or hotel because someone is gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. As UUs, our first principle calls on us to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We are called by our faith to work for the basic civil rights of our LGBTQ siblings. Equality Virginia is a strong partner in that work. EV is Virginia's leading statewide, non-partisan advocacy, outreach, and education organization working for equality for LGBTQ Virginians. Equality Virginia works with Virginia's elected leaders to amplify the voices of the LGBTQ community and moves towards full legal equality across the Commonwealth through vigorous lobbying efforts, engaging thousands of Virginians in grassroots advocacy, and connecting supporters with their legislators. Together we are working to create a Virginia that is a safe, welcoming, and equal place for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their families to live, work and play. Together we will build the Beloved Community.