Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalists
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Rev. Viola Abbitt, Minister

May 21, 2025

Dear CVUU member,

In preparing for our upcoming annual meeting and election, **June 8, 2025**, please familiarize yourself with the agenda items outlined in this letter. The meeting and voting will be held after our regular service on June 8th.

Official Agenda for CVUU Annual and Election meeting on June 8, 2025

- The Nominating Committee's proposed slate of members for the Nominating Committee for the CVUU year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.
- Election of members of the Nominating and Finance Committees and Board
- Approval of the FY '26 CVUU Budget which has been prepared and reviewed by the Finance Committee and approved by the CVUU Board for presentation to you for consideration.
- Voting instructions for your use on June 8, 2025, and paper ballot

For information on the proposed FY '26 Budget, please refer to the proposed Budget. The Budget will be presented, and questions are welcome.

Many thanks to the Nominating Committee for developing the following slates of nominees for the church year 2025-2026. **The slate consists of a new President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary; five new Directors for the Board, each to serve a three-year term, and two nominees for the Finance Committee, each to serve a three-year term.**

Nominee for <u>President</u> is Jiffy Shore:

<u>Biography:</u> Jennifer (Jiffy) Shore became a member of CVUU in 2020 yet was a previous member of UCN and former Teen advisor (2000-2007). She had a 13-year detour in Washington DC where she met and married her husband (Tom) and had baby Jackson (now almost 12 years old). She moved back to Norfolk during the pandemic and immediately re-signed the membership book. Since then, she has been on the nominating committee, the CREC, and the auction team. She is excited to continue on the CVUU Board as President.

Nominee for <u>Vice Pesident</u> is Kerry Kilburn:

<u>Biography:</u> Kerry Kilburn is a retired ODU biology professor and martial arts instructor. A Chesapeake resident since 1995, she has been a CVUU member for three years. She has volunteered with CVUU's Sandwich Makers, Community Table, Religious Education, and Coffee Makers. In her spare time, she enjoys photography, reading, and weaving.

Nominee for the <u>Treasurer</u> is Julia Lawrence:

<u>Biography</u>: Julia and her partner Lianne live in Norfolk and have been members since 2022. Julia currently serves as a Director on the Board and is an active member of the Finance & Stewardship Committees. She also contributes as a Worship Service Associate and participates in the Social Justice group. As a retired accountant, she brings experience in budgeting, forecasting, and financial planning, coupled with attention to detail and has a strong commitment to financial stewardship. In her spare time, Julia enjoys spending time with her three grandchildren, singing, playing the piano, gardening and exploring her intuitive side..

Nominee for <u>Secretary</u> is Tamara Hamlin:

<u>Biography</u>: Tamara is a public school teacher who has 4 children. She lived in Atlanta for 18 years and became a UU in 1997 when she discovered the denomination there in Atlanta. Tamara likes to quilt and do yoga. She rides her bike to work and goes to the beach as much as she can. Since moving back home to Virginia, she joined CVUU during COVID. She has taught RE for several years and looks forward to getting more invested in CVUU.

Nominee for <u>Director</u> is Lara Patton

<u>Biography:</u> Lara Patton became a member of CVUU in 2022. She started grew up Episcopalian and found the UU church in 2015 when living near Pittsburgh. Since joining CVUU she's been active in RE teaching 1st-3rd grade for a few years and then last year flipping to the middlers and teens. She attends CUUPs events as often as possible. Lara works as a Geotechnical Engineer for NAVFAC and spends their free time trying to wrangle two adorable kiddos. When they get actual free time they enjoy reading fantasy, tarot, and baking. They are looking forward to serving on the board!

Nominee for <u>Director</u> is Liz Groeneveld

<u>Biography:</u> Elizabeth (Liz) Groeneveld became a member of CVUU in 2021 but was a lurker and intermittent choir member at UCN, starting in 2015. She is an Associate Professor and chair of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at Old Dominion University. She lives in Norfolk with her partner, Eric, and their two cats, Mr. Swirley and Leroy. She has served as a Worship Services Associate for several years and recently rejoined the choir.

Nominee for <u>Director</u> is Valerie Rottink

<u>Biography:</u> Valerie grew up in the congregation and signed the book in 2011. She then did some traveling, got her degrees from TCC and UVA, and returned to the church when UCN became CVUU. Since then, Valerie lead the Young Adult Group (now YAHG), Stitchers Circle, and the 2019 Auction. She also participated on the Tech Team, Nominating Committee, mentored for Coming of Age, and is trained as an OWL Facilitator. Currently, she is one of the RE teen advisors and is a member of the Committee on Ministry. Valerie works as a facilities architect for the Navy and if you ask her how work's going she'll probably complain about contractors and elevators. She promises she loves her job, though. Valerie enjoys reading, writing (and receiving) snail mail, crafts, and games. Most days you'll find her relaxing outside on her porch with her long-haired pitbull , Sushi, and orange cat, Lox.

Nominee for <u>Director</u> is Andy Bedinger

<u>Biography</u>: Andy Bedinger joined CVUU in 2008. He's been an RE teacher on and off for much of his time in the congregation and also worked for the Coffee Crew. Away from CVUU he teaches Biology at Ocean Lakes High School and coaches the swim team. He is a retired Naval officer and lives in Virginia Beach with wife Kim and son Ian.

Nominee for <u>Director</u> is Wendy Jayvanti

<u>Biography</u>: I am a mom of 2 - 50 year old children and a grandmother of a 19 year old granddaughter and 7 year old grandson. They are the love of my life.

I am a newbie to C-VUU but Not. I feel like I have come home. I was asked to revive the Buddhist Affinity Group which continues to be a work in progress. I am honored to periodically give sermons when asked to fill in while Reverend Viola is not in the pulpit. I recently joined the racial justice committee because, sadly I KNOW that racism is an inherent part of the American Psyche. I feel strongly that that wound needs to be brought into consciousness and healed.

In my younger years, I was a manager of a convenience store. I helped operate and did all the cooking for a deli my ex-husband and I owned. When we got divorced, I went back to school and got a social work degree. I then took advance training at the Denver Psychoanalytic Institute in Denver so that I could provide Psychodynamic Psychotherapy. I was a therapist for 40 years.

Religiously/Spiritually I came from a not particularly religious Protestant Family. I always had a calling, even as a little girl. I made sure I never missed Sunday School. After divorcing, I was ordained as an Interfaith Minister. Then my Spiritual Practice became deeper. Curiosity and Karma led me into investigating and experiencing a Vedic Practice, the Red Road, a Wiccan Path and Eventually Buddhism. I am presently a Buddhist Monastic in Training. I lead a somewhat monastic life in a lay setting. I average doing my Buddhist practice 6 hours a day every day.

Generally, my heart is filled with joy, peace and contentment. I am committed to helping each and every person, individually and collectively, be more loving to themselves (including me- I am still learning) and to others. Having the opportunity to serve on the C-VUU board is a vehicle for me to actualize this intention. I am Grateful! Thank you!

Nominee for the Finance Chair: Anne Odell

Biography: Anne and her husband, Leo, have been members of the congregation since 2010 when they moved to Norfolk. Her first leadership roles were Chair of the Social Justice Committee and Co-chair of the Racial Justice Task Force. She worked with teams to develop the 2016 Strategic Plan and the 2018 Growth and Engagement Plan. During the renovation of the CVUU building she served on the Facility Oversight Committee and the Facility Design Team.

In 2018-2019 Anne began her three-year service as President of CVUU. These years were busy with the move into the new building, the search for a new minister and selection, and the onset of COVID. Following the Presidency Anne chaired the Finance Committee and in the following year was on the Stewardship Committee. Presently, Anne is "relaxing". She is the Chair of the Arts and Walls Committee and the Landscape Committee and is a regular with the Sandwich Makers and Community Table. Because Social Justice has always been a joy and a means to implement her values, she continues to serve on the Social Justice Committee.

Nominee for Finance Committee: Robin Chapman

Biography: Robin Chapman has been a member since 2016, shortly after he retired from Norfolk Southern. He is a tenor in the CVUU choir and lives in Virginia Beach with his wife Brenda, two whippets and a tuxedo cat.

Nominee for the Nominating Committee: Bonnie Cahill

Biography: Bonnie Cahill has been a member of CVUU since 2022. At home among the evergreens of the pacific northwest, she moved to Chesapeake in 2019 with her wife Bree and two children, Miles (now 15) and Terran (now 11). She spent several years performing with the Pacific Northwest Opera as a chorus member and still loves to sing. For the last several years she has been a stay-at-home parent and caregiver for her special needs children and is dedicated to her family. Currently she sings with the CVUU choir and serves on the nominating committee.

2026 Annual Meeting Election Ballot

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS: Following the Annual Meeting on June 8th there will be an electronic vote. You may attend the Annual/Election meeting via Zoom directly after service. **The E-ballots will be emailed directly to your personal email by 11 am, Sunday June 8th and will expire on Monday, June 9 at 11 am**. If you do not receive a ballot by 11 am. Email Office@c-vuu.org and one will promptly be mailed to you. Each CVUU member in a household will receive a personal email so they can vote. **Should you choose to use this paper ballot it will be accepted as well. Same rules apply. The paper ballot must be mailed to be received in the office at CVUU, 809 S. Military Hwy, Virginia Beach, VA 23464 by 11 am. June 9th. **If there are amendments to any of the items during the Annual meeting, you will be contacted via phone to confirm your original vote. Please include your information at the TOP of this ballot if you are using the paper ballot. Paper ballots will be available at church starting Monday, June 2nd. They must be received by 11 am June 9th to be counted.**

****Your Name:** _____

****Your Contact Phone:** _____

Nominations 2025-2026

Jiffy Shore, President (2025-2026)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Kerry Kilburn, Vice President (2025-2026)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Julia Lawrence, Treasurer (2025-2026)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Tamara Hamlin, Secretary (2025-2026)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Lara Patton, Director (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Liz Groeneveld, Director (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Valerie Rottink, Director (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Andy Bedinger, Director (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Wendy Jayvanti, Director (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Anne Odell, Finance Chair (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Robin Chapman, Finance (2025-2028)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

Bonnie Cahill, Nominating Committee (2025-2026)
Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:

_____ I vote in FAVOR
_____ I vote AGAINST
_____ I abstain

2025-2026 Budget

Please check the statement below that you wish to affirm:
_____ I vote in FAVOR of the 2025/26 budget as written.
_____ I vote AGAINST of the 2025/26 budget as written.
_____ I abstain

Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalist

FY 2026 Budget

Revenues	
4010 Pledged Donations	449,000
4030 Unpledged Donations	1,500
4040 Plate	7,024
4120 Interest	8,000
4050 Fundraisers	6,500
4060 Rental Income - Short Term (venue)	25,600
4065 Rental Income - Long Term (Tenant)	51,000
Carryover funds from 2025	39,853
Total Revenues	**$588,477**
Expenditures	
5000 Personnel Expense	316,327
6100 Administration Expenses	27,834
6200 Building	150,455
6500 Utilities	34,818
6600 Grounds & Landscaping	9,047
6700 Kitchen	2,525
6800 Association Dues	6,400
6900 Committees & Programs	19,722
7000 Rental, Bank card & Misc. Expenses	21,349
Total Expenditures	**$588,477**