



## **Witness for Love & Marriage Equality Interfaith and Community Action**

Join us as we gather in support of the day when all loving couples can legally marry the person of their dreams in our state!

**When:** Monday, May 12 at 2 PM

**Where:** Near the Montgomery County Circuit Court, Christiansburg

**What:** A Short, Peaceful Interfaith & Community Action to Support Marriage Equality in VA

**How:** Singing, Interfaith Prayer & Personal Testimonials, Sharing of Love Cookies

*With community partners, we'll sing, hear testimonials, eat "love cookies," and a small contingent will deliver a **Love Letter** to our local county clerk indicating our support of Marriage Equality.*

**Want to sign the Love Letter?**

**Look for it in Elarth Hall on Sunday, May 11.**

**Why & Why Now?** Last Valentine's Day, a judge struck down VA's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage which VA voters enacted in 2006, ruling that the amendment violated the *Equal Protection Clause* of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The ruling is now being appealed! A three-judge panel in the Fourth U.S. Circuit of Appeals will hear arguments about the VA case on **May 13**. The Fourth Circuit also covers the Carolinas, WVA and MD. Legal experts expect that if the court allows the ruling in VA to stand, marriage bans in the Carolinas and WVA may also be struck down! So, these hearings are exciting for the prospect of Marriage Equality here in VA and in neighboring states. On May 12, the day before the hearings, we voice our support and send an affirming, optimistic message to our courts: we look forward to the day when all loving couples can marry in VA and across the country!

**Support the Action:** All of kindred spirit are welcomed for this short, peaceful action.

**How You Can Help:** We are in need of several batches of "heart-shaped cookies" - sign up at UUC following the service on May 4. Plan to bring your cookies to UUC on Sunday, May 11 - or just bring them with you to the courthouse on May 12.

***Taking Action Grounded in Our UU Principles:  
The inherent worth and dignity of all peoples &  
The interconnected web of life.***