



March 29, 2025

World Fellowship Community,

As we move through these challenging times, we pledge WFC as a safe place for all. This extends to you, our existing community, as well as to all those who may find and need us in the coming years.

And as we look to the future and to the importance of a place like WFC during these times, we want to revisit a matter that has been the subject of ongoing discussions for many years: a change to the name World Fellowship. We have heard the many voices that have called for change – away from language that can be heard as aligned with patriarchy and Christian hegemony – and toward something that expresses the truth of our community as a secular and welcoming safe space for all. We have also heard the many voices that remind us that WFC has an incredibly rich history and legacy, which we have been exploring as a Board and in community conversations last summer.

After careful consideration and robust discussion, in October 2024, the WFC Board voted to reaffirm the decision of prior Boards and to move forward with a change to our name. We deeply cherish our history and will continue to celebrate it – AND we believe changing the name is the right decision for our long-term future. Along with new outreach strategies and growing/diversifying year-round programming, we hope the name change will enable us to reach new communities.

Given the current political climate and the needs in our country and community right now (see [February WFC Board Statement & Call to Action](#)), this is not the moment to prioritize the work to choose a new name. The immediate future is uncertain and fraught. We need to engage positively and support each other more than ever. We believe that our first priority is to face the current reality squarely and provide support to our community and others in need.

With this communication, we're ensuring that we are transparent and open with our community by sharing the rationale for both our decision and the pause in the process. When the broader context allows, we plan to engage the community in a shared process to identify a new name that builds on our legacy and supports us in growing into our next chapter. We invite you to share any thoughts, reactions and ideas about the name change [here](#). The Board commits to revisiting all of what you share when we restart this process.

In the meantime, we will continue holding space for our community as we work together to determine the actions we must take to protect and advance our essential mission.

In solidarity,
WFC Board of Trustees

*Want to share feedback
or name ideas?! →→*

