

## Aikido Fellowship of Virginia Welcome! General Information

We meet on **Monday** and **Friday** nights. Kids Class: 6-7pm (ages 5 and up) Adult Class: 7-8pm (ages 15 and up) Try a class for free. \$10 to join, and \$10 a month (no contracts)

The Art: AIKIDO comes from 3 words, which translate into the "Art of Harmonizing Spirit"

- ai joining, unifying, combining, harmonizing
- *ki* spirit, energy
- $d\bar{o}$  way, path

Aikido aims to redirect an attacker's energy instead of inflicting harm. Students blending with the attacker's force, and then lead that force (or energy) into a circular or flowing motion. As a result, the aggressor is thrown to the ground or held in a neutralizing lock. When used properly, Aikido is a peaceful yet effective self-defense form.

Aikido is much more than a physical art. Its unique blend of physical and mental training emphasizes centering, grounding, blending with conflict, relaxation, timing, intuition and energy flow.

**The Fellowship:** The Aikido Fellowship was founded in 2009 with the intent of creating greater awareness in the community of the benefits of Aikido, and because of our love of the art.

**The Instructor and Lineage:** Shannon Frye began martial arts at 12 year old (1982). In Aikido, he obtained 5<sup>th</sup> kyu ranking through AikiKai (2006), and continued his training towards shodan under Lewis (Shihan and U.S. President of Karate For Christ International), a student of Kuniba-soke, student of Gozo-soke (founder of Yoshinkan), student of O'Sensei (founder of Aikido). Frye-sensei, holds yudansha (black belt) ranking in aikido, karate, judo, juijitsu, Shaolin Kung Fu, and Goshin Budo.

**Uniforms**: Uniforms are available.. If you already have a uniform (solid white only), you may wear it. No patches, screen printing, or advertisements are allowed. Please, no V-necked TKD uniforms! Females are required to wear a t-shirt under their uniform top. Males are encouraged to wear a cup.

Equipment: As there is no sparring, no additional gear/sparring equipment is necessary.

Contact information <u>www.AikidoFellowship.com</u> <u>AikidoFellowship@gmail.com</u> 521 Providence rd, Chesapeake VA (757) 424-0808