

The CommUunicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

The Abiding Ethic

By Roland Micklem

It's a heavy lift, but we have to do it. We are called upon, now more than ever, to love—and to love indiscriminately. This is a moral mandate we cannot sidestep. We must love all: Muslims, Jews, Christians, Atheists, Democrats, and Republicans. We must love peoples of all nationalities and religions as well as those professing no religion—and we must love people who hate us as well as those who do not.

These are things to remember when we are tempted to attend another Charlottesville style brouhaha. It is indeed despicable what these neo-Nazi types believe and are trying to spread around. But there's a human soul behind each pair of those venomous eyes, and this soul still harbors some shreds of humanity.

This seeming impasse may never be satisfactorily resolved, but if we are to truly love as indiscriminately as we know we should, we have no option but to try. The message we need to deliver to the Neo-Nazis: God loves you. We love you as a fellow human, but we abhor what you stand for.

This needs to be done in a non-threatening venue—which a public demonstration assuredly is not. Maybe a work place. And finding someone to do it is as tough as finding someone to bell the cat.

But I volunteer.....

An Exciting Year Ahead in RE

By Sarah Skaar

This year in RE we are offering some really exciting curricula for the different classes. In our K-5th classroom we are going to be looking at different religions from all over the world. We will eat and cook food, read stories, sing songs and do crafts that come from the traditions of many different religions. It is our first time trying out a larger combined class and I hope it will be a great success!



The summer's RE program featuring Harry Potter themed lessons ended with a Quiddich tournament

For our middle school age group, we are doing a curriculum called "Popcorn Theology". This is a film based curriculum that uses popular movies to jumpstart explorative conversations about theology. It gives this age group a chance to look deeply at their own faith and ask questions in a safe and supportive UU environment. And of course, eat popcorn!

Continued

An Exciting Year Ahead in RE (Cont.)

Our youth are taking part in a year long, service and retreat-based program called "Coming of Age". Coming of Age uses discussions and activities to work with youth as they transition out of childhood and start to come into their own with definitions of faith and what it means to take responsibility. This program involves each youth getting an adult mentor from the Fellowship.

The program kicks off with a dinner for parents and youth. Then over the course of the year, the youth are involved in multiple retreats, planning an entire Sunday service and also doing service projects in our area. This is a really special program that we are all excited for our youth to get to experience.

Joint Service with Harrisonburg UUs

For several years now, UUFW and HUU have come together for a picnic at Grand Caverns in Grottoes. It has been a way to get to know our fellow UUs in the Valley and have fun with good food, lively music, children’s activities and some friendly competition.

For the last two years, we added an outdoor worship service to bring us together in a spiritual way.

The 2017 UUFW/HUU service and potluck picnic will be on Sunday October 1st at 11:00 a.m., rain or shine. **There will be no service at the UUFW.**

Our worship/ music and hospitality teams have been working with folks from HUU to make the event special, and they are hoping for a good turnout of adults and children. All you

need to bring is a dish to share (Food Plan B: A-G Dessert/Bread, H-P Veg/Salad, Q-Z Main Dish), and maybe a lawn chair. Please think about who you might offer or ask for a ride so that everyone who wants to go will have a way to get there. Grand Caverns is located at [5 Grand Caverns Drive](#), Grottoes.

Meet our New Nursery Coordinator



The RE team is very pleased to introduce **Stephanie Taylor**, our new nursery coordinator. Stephanie is joining us from the Waynesboro Rosenwald Community Center where she teaches Stretch-n-Grow and cheerleading. She lives very close to the UUFW and has a nursery-aged son, Logan.

Welcome Stephanie!

