



The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

What Must We Do To Save the World?

In the Winter 2017 issue of *UU World* magazine, there is an article that asks six Unitarian Universalist leaders four questions relating to whether you have to be an activist to be a Unitarian Universalist. I encourage you to read it.

My friend the Rev. Robin Bartlett is a Christian-identifying UU minister serving a congregation that is both the UU and United Church of Christ. She answers the question with a succinct “No.”

Her congregation has a larger presence of political conservatives than the stereotypical UU congregation, so focusing effort on political policy can be a challenge. Yet her congregation works to live into their principles, though not by taking to the streets. From the pulpit, “Pastor Robin” preaches the subversive gospel of love. Her congregation responds by working to bring love to life. But not every congregation is shaped like hers.

Is the UUFW an activist congregation? Some members are activists, people who join marches, who lobby elected officials for specific legislative and regulative action, who try to reshape public opinions. We have a racial equity class that meets once a month, out of which I hope leaders for racial justice will emerge to lead the congregation. The times we live in challenge us to do more than stand on the sidelines.

We face the challenge of finding meaningful action after the white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, inequity in UU hiring practices, KKK recruitment flyers, draconian enforcement of

immigration law, the #MeToo campaign to no longer allow perpetrators of sexual harassment and sexual assault to pretend they have done no harm – these are recent challenges we face.

Do you have to be an activist, taking to the streets in response to each challenge, to be a UU? No. Of course not. We support the cause for justice in many ways, not only by marching. We will not always agree on specific policy changes. Yet, in our many ways, we must act to bring our values into the world.

In what way will you join the challenge?

Peace and Blessings,
Rev. Paul

Holiday Parties at the UUFW

This year, as in the past, the UUFW offers two opportunities for members, friends, family members and significant others to celebrate together in December—the Holiday Party on Saturday, December 9 at 6:30 and the Caroling Potluck, on Saturday, December 16 at 5:30.

Why two parties? (1) To accommodate the busy schedules of members and friends in hopes everyone will be able to attend at least one party, and (2) To appeal to the socializing preferences of as many of us as possible.

How do they differ? The Holiday Party is at Debora Hoard and Tom Christman’s home in Greenwood VA. Directions will be provided. Bring a hearty hors d’oeuvre to share and BYOB. There will be alcohol at this party and singing around a barely tuned piano. Everyone is welcome.

Continued

Holiday Parties at the UUFW (Cont)

The Caroling Party is at the UUFW. A warm potluck meal will be followed by caroling around the “tree street” neighborhood. The Fellowship will provide hot chocolate and other non-alcoholic beverages and the lyrics to common carols. Flashlights or headlamps are recommended. Everyone is welcome.

We hope one or the other or both events will fit into your December schedule.

Service Auction Update

The UUFW raised \$9659 at the November 12th Service Auction. Yeah!! But we can raise more if we just sell these remaining events and items (check the [online catalog](#) on the UUFW website to find the full description).

- Tour of Bloomaker and Dutch Treats, Dec 6 at 1:30 pm (One spot remaining at \$35)
- Supper and Scrabble, Feb 10 at 6:00 pm (Two spots remaining at \$35 each)
- Cenacolo “The Last Summer”, June 16 at 6:00 pm (Four spots remaining at \$100 each)
- Another Taste of Shakespeare, April 20 at 5:30 pm (Four spots remaining at \$70 each)
- Porch Party Sing Along, August 25 at 7:00 pm (Two spots remaining at \$20 each)
- Contemporary Modern Dance Class, December 16 at 10:00 am (11 spots remaining at \$10 each)
- Bill Berry paintings # 6 and #11 remain on display in the Fellowship Hall (\$100 each)

If you wish to buy any of these items, contact Ben Pumphrey (ben.pumphrey@gmail.com) to verify availability before submitting payment.

Statements for purchases on the day of the auction have been sent out by email. You may add an additional purchase to your payment total or submit it separately. Be sure to indicate

“Service Auction” on your check. If you’ll be paying your service auction bill through online banking, please let our administrative assistant, Marilyn Nash, know so it is not mistaken for a pledge payment.

And don’t forget the [Old Time Opry Night](#) on December 2 at 7:00 pm. For this Service Auction event, you can pay at the door, \$10.

Thank you Kay Yost, Nancy Lay, Abbie Edwards and Sylvia Woodworth for the great job you did coordinating this year’s auction.

New Member Spotlight



Lorae McDonald (pictured with husband Woody) first joined UUFW 32 years ago as a respite from rural Rockbridge County conservative values and as a

counterpoint to the Weekday Religious Education program in the children's schools. For eight recent years, she was active in the former Rockbridge UU Fellowship. She especially likes unusual services, remembering back to a service when a Native American medicine wheel was drawn on the Chalice House lawn. She appreciates services about our pagan roots, so we hope she can come to the Winter Solstice service on December 21st. Addressing climate change is a passion of Lorae's. She has also expressed an interest in restarting a women's group, which she enjoyed in years past. Welcome back, Lorae!

Will you be called upon to say grace for Thanksgiving dinner? Try [Naomi King’s blessing](#) offered by the UUA.

