



# The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

## The Gift of Giving

By Sue Peason

Early October graciously offered up a picture-perfect morning for friends to joyfully gather together, enjoy a quiet country stroll and feast afterwards on a lovingly prepared gourmet picnic.

For fifteen years now, there's been a Gourmet Hike offered as a Service Auction item. The menus and locations are ever evolving, and while our attendees always seem to enjoy themselves (many are loyal, repeat participants), I'll confess that certainly the lion's share of the enjoyment is experienced by Florence, Pat, Sheila and me, the current roster of organizers.

Like any labor of love, it's a process—from the creative collaboration of crafting the menu (discussed at multiple meetings over copious amounts of vino, usually), to the pre-event afternoon of happily preparing said menu, to the actual gathering together of dear friends, to the "post-game analysis" of our successes or struggles, (also over copious amounts of vino, usually). This event has served to strengthen our friendships and further bond us together in fellowship.

Events such as the Gourmet Hike, which raise necessary funds to help provide financial stability for the Fellowship, also serve to strengthen the familial bonds of those within the Fellowship.

For my family, social offerings purchased at the annual Service Auction serve as the foundation for our social calendar. I never cease

to marvel at the creativity, talent and generosity on display each November.

As we move into the darkening days of winter, there's a solace in preparing for the year ahead, the gatherings to come, the laughs yet to be shared. The Service Auction is a fundraiser, certainly, but I'm the richer for it.



*The 2020 Gourmet Hike was really a walk on country roads so that social distancing could be maintained.*



*The gourmet picnic was prepared with gloves and masks, and served in individual containers. A first!*

## Member News

Charlotte Shnaider is home after knee replacement surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Eric Milnes is enjoying using his new stairlift!