



The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Waynesboro

An Exciting New Art Show at the UUFW

By Maribeth Nolde, Art-on-our-Walls
Coordinator

Kathy Belcher has presented her show, entitled “Imagined Reality in Nature,” with art pieces being on our walls through February 26th. All pieces are for sale with 15% coming back to the Fellowship.

Kathy has been a member of UUFW since 1988 or 89. If you viewed the video of the building of our fellowship hall, designed by Bill Berry, Kathy was the president of the board at that time and physically worked on the building. She was also president when the very first minister was hired at UUFW.

When Kathy retired from various careers, including being a special education teacher, she started working on one of her bucket-list items; to become a Master Gardener and take workshops toward that dream. In hindsight, she realized that gardening helped her reawaken her ignored right brain, which had been active at one time. She has also realized that, “as much as I need my morning cup of coffee, I need my daily fix of right brain activity.”

Kathy’s step into the art medium of cold wax and oil paint came about this way. She and her husband spent February of 2020 in Mexico. During a two-week period of time spent in San Miguel de Allende, Kathy participated in a two-day art class in cold wax. Shortly after returning home from this trip,

COVID resulted in the shutdown we all remember. Five months were spent sheltering at home with her grandchildren, and after that was finished, Kathy realized she needed to fill her days again. So, in the Fall of 2020, she made the decision to enter into the world of cold wax and oil paint, purchased supplies, and began painting.

Using cold wax and oil paint comes about in the following way: There are three layers of color in the painting. Kathy mainly uses a squeegee to put paint onto the canvas, but also a palette knife and mark making tools to scrape back and expose underlying paint layers giving texture and excitement to the painting.



This type of art is a “process” art and mainly contemporary and abstract at its core, but I find that there are elements of natural and organic beauty in a lot of her work. Kathy invites viewers to discover the process by

closely viewing the paintings for the presence of strokes, marks, lines, and impressions that remain after using her variety of tools. As she stated, “The process, materials and physical qualities of this type of art, the ability to explore its manipulation, speaks to me.”

Kathy feels she is only beginning her artist journey and realizes there is a lot she does not know. Currently, she is fascinated with color and color theory. While her earlier work was more abstract, she has begun to explore nature and landscapes as “both a point of connection and departure”. The current works at UUFW, while somewhat abstract in their presentation, also display basic elements of Kathy’s world and travel explorations—trees, sky, water, mountains and flowers. Using cold wax and oil paint, Kathy is able to view and express the colors in her surroundings. Look closely at her art work. Spend a little time with it, and you will see what she is expressing about nature and her world.

Climate Change: Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

By Steve Lay, Buildings and Grounds Team Leader

Just before the Covid 19 pandemic started, our Fellowship community started on the road to reducing our carbon footprint. We had to replace the furnace in the Chalice House. Thankfully, we had a high efficiency HVAC system with direct venting installed. This helps reduce the release of noxious gasses by burning the fuel more efficiently.

As the Capital Campaign began amid the Pandemic, 12” of new insulation was installed in the attic of the Chalice House, as well as new

thermal pane replacement windows. These added features helped reduce the heat loss from the building and also aided in reducing our fuel consumption. A new ADA handicap bathroom with a water efficient toilet and sink was installed, reducing our consumption of water. A new efficient heat pump system was installed in the Fellowship Hall which helped to reduce our use of electricity in the building. Throughout our facility, light bulbs are slowly being replaced with new LED bulbs. The large globe lights in the Fellowship Hall have all been converted to LED.

And last, but not least, the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Fellowship Hall has allowed us to take a big step toward sustainable energy consumption, as well as save a great deal of money. The cost of the solar panels was donated by an anonymous benefactor. Have you guessed who it is? This person recently gave permission to reveal their identity.

Thank you, Diane Ganiere! Even though you have moved away, your gift will remain as a lasting example of your generosity and love for our Fellowship.

Message From the Treasurer

Two months after our highly successful service auction, quite a few individuals have not yet paid their bill for the purchases they made. If you bought something at the auction and did not receive an emailed invoice, or if you are not sure what you owe, please contact Florence Ferguson at treasurer@uufw.org. If you have paid, thank you! If not, your prompt attention to this obligation will be greatly appreciated.

