



The CommUUnicator

**Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Waynesboro**

Board Highlights

by Kay Yost, President

As the end of the calendar year approaches, and I reflect on UUFW Board activities of the last few months, there are a few matters that I want to call to your attention as we move into 2024.

The first is our Religious Education program offered for children. As was announced back in October, Nancy Lay was hired to be our Interim RE Director for 16 hours/week while a search is undertaken for a permanent RE Director. Before a job description can be created and an active search can begin, we need to evaluate the program and make some decisions about the structure of the program going forward. Our survey will give all UUFW members an opportunity to weigh in on the RE program and share their expectations for the permanent RE Director. Please take some time to consider how we can best serve our mission statement that calls us to "Build our Fellowship into an essential resource for liberal religion in the Valley by providing for the spiritual development of adults and children" and respond to the survey. The survey is available at [UUFW Religious Education Survey](#).

The second matter I want to call to your attention is that of our delegates to the UUA General Assembly. Delegates are authorized to vote on our behalf at this annual meeting that takes place every year in June. The 2024 GA

will be all virtual and will take place June 20-23 and details can be found [here](#). Looking further ahead, the 2025 GA will be multi-platform with the main event taking place at the Baltimore Convention Center. I've never attended GA, but I've heard from people who have attended in the past that it is a positive and uplifting experience. Anyone can register and attend, but to be a voting delegate requires prior authorization. If you would be interested in serving as a delegate, please contact President Kay Yost (president@uufw.org) or Vice President Margot Kephart (VicePresident@uufw.org).

Finally, some time ago the Board was approached by one of our members who inquired about making a pledge donation of stock. We had no mechanism in place for accepting stocks but decided we should have an account in place to handle such donations. Very soon we will have an account with a local broker established that we can use for acceptance of stock donations. If you are interested in this option, inquiries can be addressed to our Treasurer, Peggy Anders (treasurer@uufw.org).

On a more personal note, I want to mention my aunt, Grace Leary, who joined UUFW shortly before I did back in 2011. She has been in long-term care for over a year now and enjoys visits from family members, especially her four-year-old granddaughter. She is



pictured here with her daughter, Hsini Desiree. When I visit Grace, she always asks about UUFW and continues to value her connection to the Fellowship, even though she is no longer able to actively participate.

Grace would appreciate cards from those who remember her, which can be sent to: Grace Leary, c/o Greene Acres Rehab & Nursing, 355 William Mills Drive, Stanardsville, VA 22973.

I wish all of you love and joy during the holiday season and best wishes for the new year!

Where's Bea?

By Lorain Harouff and Sylvia Woodworth

We have been concerned because we have been missing our member, Bea Berry. After her beloved husband Bill died, she left Baldwin Park/Brightview to live in Waynesboro with one of her five daughters. For some reason, we have been shy about knocking on the door, hoping to have a visit with Bea.

We recently decided we couldn't stand not knowing how Bea is any longer and made a plan to go find her. We knocked on the door, then enjoyed a pleasant chat with her daughter. We learned that in March, Bea had moved to The Meadows, the assisted living residence at the Stuarts Draft Retirement Community, 2.5 miles from one of our homes!! So we hopped in our cars and headed for The Meadows to find Bea. The fall decorations

were coming down and many of the Christmas decorations were up. It felt homey. We were taken to her room and had a joyful reunion.

Bea looks wonderful and seems content. She shares a good-sized room with an equally sociable woman twenty years younger. We encouraged her to tell Jean about how she and Bill met, the beginning of a long and loving relationship.

"Someone at work at Western State suggested we go up to the restaurant on Afton Mountain because there was going to be live music. Seven of us got all dressed up and went. Bill came over to our table and asked me to dance. I have that dress hanging in my closet. Would you like to see it?" Of course we did!

We have found Bea. We are delighted to be able to share this news with you. Is there anyone special in your life you have "lost"? We encourage you to pick up the phone, knock on

the door, hop in the car, whatever it takes. You might get the bad news you have been fearing, or you might be overjoyed as we were with the answer to our question, "Where's Bea?"



Bea Berry showing the dress she wore on a very special date, many, many years ago.

