



# The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Waynesboro

## Look What's Coming

Something exciting is working its way to the surface at UUFW, from planting seeds of “What if?” through plowing the fields of “How about?” It could lead to gathering the fruits of “Here it is!” Need a hint? It’s based on the penultimate line of our Mission Statement—*To build our fellowship into an essential resource for liberal religion in the Valley by providing for the spiritual development of adults and children.* (See the full Mission Statement below.)

Did you guess?

We already have a program with its own team and acting director for children’s religious education (CRE). *What if* we created a team to oversee a full program of adult religious education (ARE)?

Early this month four volunteers met with Rev. Paul to answer that question with more questions of their own. Acting Director of Religious Education Nancy Lay, Susan Clark, Annie Foerster and Tom Engle joined Paul to begin laying the foundation for a new team that would oversee a year-round schedule of adult learning opportunities. This action would support our existing definition and promise for Lifespan Learning.

One of the first questions was, “What might ARE classes include?” The list of topics was just a beginning: Social Justice, Spiritual Practice, Small Groups, UU History, UU Theology, Ethics, Tapestry of Faith classes from the UUA, Building Your Own Theology for newcomers and those who want to brush

up, Cakes for the Queen of Heaven (women’s theology), and more. The formats suggested offer flexibility: Books as a basis for discussion, established UU curricula, lectures, workshops, demonstrations, small groups or interest-based gatherings.

The planning group saw the new Team’s responsibility as supporting Rev. Paul’s offer of periodic classes as well as encouraging and supporting lay participants as class facilitators or co-facilitators, maintaining a year-round schedule beginning modestly with possibly four classes a year and building to at least one offering every other month in the future.

The group will meet again on February 7 at 2:00. They’ll be looking more closely at classes already available through the UUA, studying the results of a survey Rev. Paul sent out last summer, and building a description for the future Team members regarding goals and tasks.

Want to get involved? Here’s what’s needed right now —

- Encouragement to continue this process
  - Suggestions for topics to consider offering
  - Applications to participate on the Team or as a Facilitator (or both)
  - Other questions for the group to discuss
- Send your encouragement, suggestions, applications or questions to [adultre@uufw.org](mailto:adultre@uufw.org).

If you’d like to explore the UUA curricula mentioned, take a look at the [Tapestry of Faith Programs for Adults](#) on the UUA website.

Here's the rest of our Mission Statement for a reminder of who we are and who we want to become.

**In keeping with our faith and inspired by our vision, it is the mission of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro to:**

- **Grow a loving, active and welcoming community, practicing grace and understanding in all we do.**
- **Contribute to the creation of a kinder and more just world through consistently courageous action as an ally and defender of the marginalized and oppressed.**
- **Expand our commitment to the stewardship of our planet for future generations through personal and congregational action.**
- **Build our fellowship into an essential resource for liberal religion in the Valley by providing for the spiritual development of adults and children.**
- **Invest in the future of our Fellowship through personally significant commitments of our time, talents, and resources.**

## New Member Spotlight



**Barbara and Ron Harrison** describe themselves as "serial renovators." They have restored

several houses in their home state of Rhode Island, and since 2006, in Southern Utah. They recently moved here to be closer to Ron's daughter and two grandchildren in Northern

Virginia, and they are actively house hunting for their next project. Until they find it, they are renting in Waynesboro.

Barbara says that they did a systematic search to find the right place to live once they decided to move East. An internet search for liberal-leaning small-town places with good healthcare nearby led them somehow to Staunton and Waynesboro. After visiting and looking around, they settled on the charm and beauty of our area.

Ron and Barbara both grew up in Catholic families. Although they were married by a UU minister, they have not been active in a UU congregation until now. Ron has a background in information technology, primarily with large computing systems, and Barbara worked in marketing, advertising and public relations. After their move to Utah, she had many different jobs from managing a bookstore to working for a mortuary. Now that they are both retired, they are eager to get involved in volunteer activities at the Fellowship and in the community.



*The congregation officially welcomed seven new members on January 14. Pictured are Madeleine DuPre, Ron and Barbara, Beth Fairley, Judi Lazenby, Rey Patterson, Daisy Schrock and Rev. Paul. New member Melissa Hays was not able to attend.*

