



The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Waynesboro

Dancing with the Daffodils

One of the great joys of the year at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro is the blooming of the large planting of daffodils on the bank between Chalice House and the Fellowship Hall. The angle of the slope is just right to encourage them to bloom earlier even than the ones just a few steps away in front of the Chalice House porch.



We've been enjoying snowdrops and crocuses in more modest numbers at the Fellowship for a few weeks. And now the daffodils have begun opening in advance of the arrival of March. Every year as our daffodil season begins, I am reminded of

English poet of the Romantic movement William Wordsworth's famous poem "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud," which is alternatively titled just "Daffodils." Some of us memorized it at some point along the way. And most recognize the characterization of the daffodils as a crowd dancing beside a lake.

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

There still exists a manuscript of the poem from 220 years ago. 1804. It frequently amazes me how, even though the arts and society are in a

completely different place than when Wordsworth wrote, we can still be moved by his phrasing. We look around our twenty-first-century spring and still daffodils are dancing in a crowd.

When I read the poem years ago, my focus was on those natural and metaphorical images. But when I reread the poem now, I gravitate to the ending, where the poet reflects on the different place held in his consciousness by returning to the memory than was held in the moment of his encounter with nature.

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

Our Fellowship's daffodils remind me, likewise, of pleasures and experiences that I didn't fully appreciate in younger days but amplify now in memory. I hope you, too, are able to appreciate the beauty of spring, both in its own right and through the experience of memories.

Peace and Blessings,
Rev. Paul

New Art Show This Sunday

By Maribeth Nolde, UUFW Art Show
Coordinator

I had the distinct pleasure of meeting the artist for the UUFW art show for March and April through an introduction by Florence Ferguson, a member of our Fellowship. Nancy Slye's

wonderful, textural and colorful original fiber art is all over her home in Bridgewater. She moved to Bridgewater in 2018 after 30 years on a 180-acre farm, where she raised Angora goats, sheep, and llamas. On the farm, she dyed the wool, spun it, and wove it into art pieces. Her studio was in an old spring house on the property where she enjoyed beautiful mountain views. Now, her entire basement is her studio. I was able to view art pieces in various stages of development, including an area where she still dyes her own fibers. She reported exploring all aspects of fiber arts, but settled on her passion—*hooking*—because it encompasses everything she has ever learned about art making. It also introduced her to a close community of artists in the area. This show, “Fiber Imaginings” will be available from March 3 through April 28.



Proddy Flowers

News Flush!

By Ron Harrison

On our first visit to the Fellowship, my wife Barbara noticed that the toilets in the bathrooms were not “water friendly.” Years of living in the desert have made us very conscious of our consumption of this precious resource. So, with

the Board’s approval, we purchased two “dual-flush” toilets, with both chair-height and elongated seats, and soft-close covers. With the able assistance of Wayne Nolde, I installed them last week. They will reduce our bathroom water usage by about 40 percent.

Community News

Harrisonburg’s 8th International Women’s Day Celebration Is Saturday, March 9.

Participants will gather at Harrisonburg City Hall on South Main Street at 10:30 a.m., then walk along the sidewalk to Court Square for the main program of speakers and entertainment at 11:00 a.m. The Harrisonburg [International Women’s Day Facebook page](#), has updated information and photos of women illustrating this year’s theme, **Inspire Inclusion**.



Thanks to the prompt response of so many pledgers, our daffodil is beginning to bloom! The \$165,000 goal by this coming Sunday is in sight if the remaining 25 pledges are submitted. The fastest ways are via our website or putting the form in the box on Sunday. Snail mail is welcomed, too. Together, we can do this!!

