



The CommUUnicator

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

New Member Spotlight



Steven Woodruff first attended a UUFW service last year with his husband, Ben Blankenship, who became a member last fall. Steven says that

he had not identified with any religious tradition, although his mother and sisters attended a Catholic church when he was younger. He was surprised to find our Fellowship to be a totally different experience than he expected in terms of the welcome and shared values that he found here.

Steven grew up in a small town in Connecticut, a state where his parents and sisters still live. He graduated from Tufts University in engineering, and after internships focused on analyzing structural engineering issues of bridges, buildings, machine parts, etc., he realized that he was drawn to academia. Steven then went on to earn a PhD in Engineering from the University of Michigan. He is currently a professor of Civil Engineering at JMU.

Steven and Ben met when they lived a few doors from each other in Ann Arbor. They have been together for eight years, and they married last year. The couple lives in Staunton

with their two cats. Ben is also on the JMU faculty.

In their free time, Steven and Ben spend time hiking and camping. Steven also likes to play video games, but at 30 years old, his primary focus is on pursuing his teaching and research goals. And he looks forward to getting more involved in Fellowship activities.

Steven and our other eight newest members will be formally welcomed during the service on May 18.

Member Update

George Thompson had successful heart surgeries on May 1 and 2 and is convalescing at home. He thanks everyone for their well wishes!



On a beautiful Earth Day, April 27, in Staunton's Gypsy Hill Park, Social Justice and Membership Teams organized to provide activities for children and, of course, told everyone who asked about UUFW and our values.