



The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Waynesboro

New Member Spotlight



Catherine (Cat) and Dwight Wilson first heard about us through their acquaintance with Emmett Crawford,

but they decided to come check us out after visiting our table at the Waynesboro Pride event last year. Both grew up in Waynesboro and met in high school. They have been married for 10 years. Their son Xander is eight and in the third grade. Like many of us, they are animal lovers, and the family includes three cats, a dog and a guinea pig. Another connection the family has to UUFW is that our former nursery care provider Madeleine Stout is Xander's godmother.

Dwight and Cat both work for the Endoscopy Department at UVA Health. Dwight is a nurse and Cat is a paramedic. In her free time, Cat enjoys arts and crafts and music. She sings and plays the guitar. Dwight is a gamer. He is connected with the gaming community in Staunton, and on Saturdays he is often found leading table-top role-playing games similar to Dungeons and Dragons at [The Dragon's Hoard](#). Xander loves bugs, insects and dinosaurs.

Dwight says that he has studied different religions over the years without making a commitment to any. He and Cat are glad to have

found a community that reflects their values. Let's make them feel welcome.



Sarah Smallwood (pictured with her daughter, Holly) is not new to Unitarian Universalism. In her earlier life, she attended a UU

congregation in Leesburg and was a member in Fredrick, MD. When her husband's job went remote, they were no longer tied to a metro area, so they chose Stuarts Draft for the views and rural atmosphere. The family bought and moved into an old farm house, which had been in the same family since it was built in 1870.

Sarah has been a full-time parent and household manager for the past seven years but is looking for work now that Holly, age seven, is in school (second grade). She previously worked in admin for an insurance agency. Sarah loves working in Microsoft Excel and once had a business building spreadsheets for individuals and small companies.

To avoid the heat this summer in their un-airconditioned house, Sarah and Holly have made lots of visits to the library and other cool places, while her husband, a user-experience

designer for a large nonprofit, explored local co-work spaces.

Sarah has a BS degree in oil painting. In addition to painting, she also enjoys quilting and sewing. She describes herself as somewhat of an introvert who resists reliance on technology as much as possible. For example, she still has a flip phone. Holly, on the other hand, is a bit of a ham who likes to be the center of attention. She's also good at math. Both Sarah and Holly have enjoyed getting to know other RE parents and children.

New Board of Directors

The UUFW held its first board meeting for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. This meeting serves as an opportunity for outgoing members to transfer their responsibilities to new members and to assign responsibilities. Peggy Anders will continue to serve as treasurer, and Madeleine Dupre was chosen to be secretary. They join previously elected President Marilyn Nash and Vice-President Jean St. Clair. The remaining members-at-large will be assigned committee duties at the next meeting. The Board members also approved a covenant to guide them during the year.



From left, Madeleine Dupre, Peggy Anders, Clint Nicely, Marilyn Nash, Mike Drumheller, Jean St. Clair, Rev. Paul, and Nancy Trimble. Immediate Past President Margot Kephart is not pictured.



A strong contingent of UUFW members marched with the Staunton Democrats in the Annual Fourth of July parade in Gypsy Hill Park with signs reflecting UU values.

Covenant of the UUFW Board of Directors

We, the members of the UUFW Board of Directors, covenant to govern in a way that serves the Fellowship's mission and the congregation. Thus, we will:

- Show up for Board meetings on time, prepared and ready to focus on productive work
- Create a safe environment where everyone's opinions are respected, openness and honesty are valued and confidentiality is upheld
- Participate actively in Board meetings by listening attentively, asking questions, and freely sharing our thoughts and opinions without hidden agendas
- Strive for visionary thinking and continuous learning as individuals and as a group
- Seek consensus, but ultimately accept decisions of the majority and speak about them with one voice
- Stay focused on the big picture (discernment, strategy and oversight), not day-to-day management issues
- Do our best to model good governance in harmony with our UU values

