



# The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Waynesboro

## Oktoberfest 2025

By Nancy Trimble, Stewardship Chair

I first learned about Oktoberfest from my mother. Her mother's maiden name was Bowman, anglicized from Baumann when her family moved from Ephrata, Pennsylvania to Bath County, Virginia in the 1800s. My mother and I enjoyed the Oktoberfest festivals at the Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton as a way of honoring her cultural inheritance *and* enjoying a brimming stein of beer!

But you don't have to have German ancestry to enjoy this celebration of all things Bavarian. Did you know that:

- 17-year-old Albert Einstein worked at Oktoberfest as an electrician. It may seem like a joke, but it isn't. As a teenager in 1896, Einstein and his family's electrical engineering firm helped install the lights in the Oktoberfest tents.
- Unlike normal beer, Oktoberfest tent brews are stronger, with an average of 6% alcohol, compared to the usual 4-5%. For truly adventurous individuals, there's Schorschbock, with 57% alcohol that costs over 600 euros per liter! However, you can get a much smaller and affordable 40ml bottle for around 30 euros.
- Oktoberfest in Munich attracts more than 7.9 million people each year. This results in a huge consumption of Bavarian beer and a boom for Germany's economy.

(source: [octoberfesttent.com](https://www.oktoberfesttent.com))



While we can't seat quite that many, we at UUFW also know how to have a good time! We're celebrating Oktoberfest on Saturday October 4 starting at 5:30 p.m. Come enjoy our Fellowship Hall decked out as a Munich beer tent with Bavarian music in the air. We'll have a buffet dinner complete with sauerkraut, brats and side dishes, plus activities and hot dogs for children. We'll serve non-alcoholic beer and you may BYOB or wine. The cost is still \$20 per adult (no tariffs applied), and children are free. Reservations can be made in person after Sunday services or by emailing me at [stewardship@uufw.org](mailto:stewardship@uufw.org).

So, bring your friends and family, dust off your lederhosen and break out your dirndls. It's Oktoberfest time! Don't miss out on the fun; mark your calendar and raise a glass with us in the Fellowship Hall.

Prost!

## New Art Show

By Maribeth Nolde

Judy Anderson, a member of our Fellowship and lifelong artist, who works in many art media, will be sharing her quilts in our next art show at UUFW. Some are quilts she has made herself and others are heritage quilts that are meaningful to her.

"Quilts: Antiques and Old Friends" will be on our walls from September 7 through October 28th. Judy's quilts range from traditional designs to original designs to heritage quilts. They have vibrant colors, as well as more subdued color palettes. Heritage quilts come from as early as the 1800s. Enjoy her display as you are transported to a time when comfy quilts with beautiful designs were commonplace in every home.



*The name of the quilt pictured is "Scraps and Stars." It is an antique quilt c. 1850 with some of the fabrics from earlier than that date.*

## Remembering our Past

From April 2011 thru April of 2017, the Transatlantic Brides and Parents Association hosted a traditional English tea at the UUFW

each April and October. This small group of mostly English women included our members Laura Hiatt and Pat Grabowski (now deceased). At \$15 per person, for up to 72 attendees each, the 13 teas raised \$10,360. It was all donated to local charities, including New Directions, Boys and Girls Club, Love Inc, WARM, local Hospice and the Food Pantry.

Each tea featured 18-22 different British food items, such as scones, trifle, tomato tarts, Victoria sponges, Scotch eggs, curry puffs, petits fours and sandwiches, presented on three-tiered serving stands. Each table was graced with a variety of mismatched but charming dishes and teapots kept warm in knitted cozys. Many attendees dressed up for the occasion in hats and pearls.



### The Advent of Fall

In the crisp, cool, late summer days,  
Trees with leaves hinting of bronze,  
Already taking early leave from twig homes,  
Gently floating, twirling to the ground.  
Squirrels squirreling away bounty for safekeeping.  
Clear azure skies giving way to bright starlit nights.  
Star wheel forever turns as you and I,  
Spellbound if we but see,  
Joyfully ride along in seasons of time.

*Jack McClenahan*

