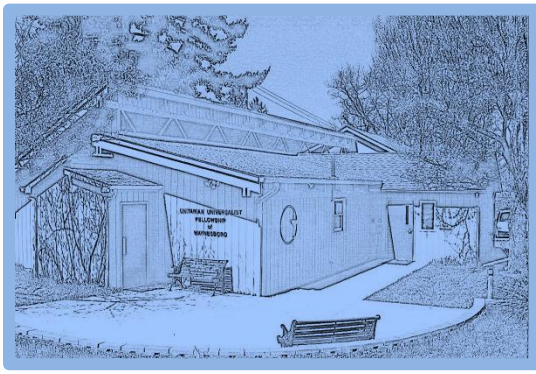


The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

Who are the Brown Baggers?

People new to UUFW often see notices about Brown Baggers and wonder what is it. Brown Baggers is not so much a fixed group but an opportunity for UUFW members and friends to meet up once a month for lively conversation and good fellowship. There is no agenda, no membership requirement, and no attendance rules. People come whenever their schedule allows; some come monthly and some come once or twice a year. Discussions may range from the serious to the silly.

Brown Baggers started in the mid to late 1970's (the adolescence of the Fellowship) by some retired women. These ladies got together to provide an "in kind" service to the Fellowship. They gathered once a month to clean and straighten the Fellowship Hall and then stayed after to socialize over lunch (brown bag). When the Fellowship was financially able to pay a cleaning service, the women continued to meet monthly. Although Brown Baggers continues to be attended primarily by retired women, UUs of any age are welcome. (Unfortunately, child care during meetings cannot be provided.)

Brown Baggers happens every third Wednesday from September to June. Meetings may be at the Fellowship, in a private home or sometimes in a local park. Someone volunteers to host and provide a simple dessert and drinks to accompany attendees' bag lunches. Meetings last from noon to 1:00 or a little later, depending on the conversation.

With no specific discussion topic, attendees primarily enjoy visiting, catching up and laughing together. Sometimes a meeting will deal with more serious topics such as parenting, caring for aging parents and major life transitions. It is always a place where everyone feels free to say what they think. For nearly fifty years Brown Baggers has given UUs an opportunity to strengthen friendships and get to know new members.

Brown Bagger regulars are grateful for the efforts of Lee Patterson, who has been instrumental in keeping it going by recruiting hostesses and making sure meeting locations are included in weekly email reminders and Sunday announcements. The next meeting is Nov. 18. *Information provided by Lee Patterson and Lorain Harouff.*

UUFW Fundraising

The Board's Stewardship Committee held its first fundraiser of the fiscal year last Saturday. Eight teams of four participated in Trivia Game Night.



They competed under names like "Four Musketeers," "The Hearts" and "Skeleton Crew." Quiz Master Stephen Van Siclen added a great touch of spice to the questions. Sharon Van Name's team "Spellbound" was the champion. Their prize was the game of "Smart Ass," Everyone had a great time and helped raise $400 for the Fellowship.

