



The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

2010-2011 Year in Review

This has been a year in which we took a fresh look at our shared mission statement to see if it still reflects who we are and supports where we want to go. We began to conceptualize the four mission statement components as four key words that define us – Exploring, Caring, Nurturing, and Sharing.

Exploring our faith and values

Member and visitors to UUFW continued this year, as in past years, to be enlightened, challenged, and inspired by the sermons of our minister, Ed Piper, and many excellent guest presenters. Rev. Piper's monthly sermon series exploring a single issue in depth was "The Challenges of Religious Diversity." Members continue explore their faith and values together through a variety of small group activities and religious education opportunities. One of these was a nine-session class on "Progressive Christianity," which examined an alternative view of the Christian faith based, not on sin, salvation, and exclusion, but on compassion, justice and inclusion. This class was led by Ed and Liz Barnes.

Caring for each other

Our Caring Network, led by Hinda Richards and Lorain Harouff, made sure members in need of support were provided with meals, rides, and visits/calls to offer encouragement and emotional support. Dozens of members willingly stepped up to provide this support, which was deeply appreciated by recipients. We also contributed over \$1,000 toward the cost of a hand-propelled bicycle for one of our teens, Jay Norris, who has a condition that limits his mobility.

Nurturing our children and youth

The children's religious education (RE) program continued to struggle with the challenge of finding enough adults willing to commit to leading RE classes during Sunday services. An RE task force led by Christina Rivera assessed the program using feedback from a survey of the congregation on perceptions and attitudes about our children and the



UU FW children explain the importance of raising money for the Guest at Our Table program.

RE program. The task force's assessment led to several new initiatives to be implemented next year that will integrate children and youth more fully into Sunday services and Fellowship activities and engage more adults in the RE program. RE enrollment at the end of the year was 38 children and youth.

Sharing our gifts

Our members are active and engaged as never before in social action programs that support worthy causes in the local and global communities. This year we contributed many hours to programs such as Disciples Kitchen, the Verona Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, Rebuilding Together, and many other social justice programs that our members are involved with as individuals. We also continued the long-time practice of a monthly special collection and raised \$7,400 for designated charitable organizations.



Working together on a rebuilding project

Members and transitions

UUFW welcomed 13 new adult members: Tamara Funk, Monte Hackney, Maribeth and Wayne Nolde, Charles Shelton, Harriet and John Sherwood, Anthony and Karen Madison Smith, Linda Smoke, Lewis and Mary Kiernan Stern, and James Wilson.

New associate members are: Mia Berry, Andrew Clark, Jay Norris, Andrew Schmidt, and Haley Thompson. We began the practice of assigning a mentor to new associate members.

All of the new members attended a Newcomer’s Seminar series led by Ed Piper. At the end of the church year our membership stood at 148 adult members and nine associate members.

In October, we held a memorial service for our beloved member Fern Mello, and in April the Fellowship hosted a memorial service for Carroll Lisle’s husband, Bob.

Stewardship

Once again the Fellowship, through thoughtful stewardship and careful monitoring, balanced our revenues and stayed within a budget of \$129,000. Our pledges this year exceeded \$108,000 from 94 pledging units. In addition, we raised over \$12,500 from the annual service auction and \$4,200 from food card and coffee sales. We learned creative new ways to think about stewardship by hosting a stewardship workshop for the Blue Ridge cluster of UU Congregations. For the first time, we divided financial management responsibilities between the Treasurer and the new position of Bookkeeper.

Fellowship

Socializing together is an important part of UUFW membership. This year we continued our successful third-Sunday potlucks. In the fall,

we had another festival at the farm of Helen and Bob Cloud, and in the winter we had two sing-along movie nights with costumes. These events were in addition to the annual holiday party and annual picnic with the Harrisonburg and Rockbridge UUs.



South Pacific Movie Night, January 2011

2010-2011 Board of Directors

President	Bob Richards
Vice President	Christina Rivera
Secretary	Gillian Preston
Treasurer	Ann Thompson
Building & Grounds	Glen Patterson/Will Strickland
Communication	Florence Ferguson
Fellowship	Lee Patterson
Finance	Marsha Fuller
Membership	Elaine Goss
Religious Ed.	Jen Liskey/Debby Austin
Social Action	Jody Grogan
Sunday Programs	Linda Grogan

UUFW staff

Minister	Rev. Dr. Ed Piper
Dir. Religious Ed.	Fran Clark
Administrative Asst.	Marilyn Nash
Custodian	Neil VanName