



## Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Carolina Foothills April 2019

Services at 10:30 a.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at  
April 7: 835 N. Trade St., Tryon, NC  
April 21: Sunnydale, 328 S. Trade St., Tryon  
[www.uufcf.org](http://www.uufcf.org); Like/follow us on Facebook @ UUFCF  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782

### From UUFCF Board President Robin Edgar

#### **We're Moving to a New Location April 21!!!!**

Dear UU friends,

As many of you know, our current location at 835 N. Trade Street has been for sale and, over the past several months, we have been looking for alternate locations. I am happy to announce that we have finally found a suitable new place to hold our fellowships at the Sunnydale log cabin between the Dollar store and the IGA in Tryon. We will hold out first service there on Easter Sunday, April 21.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Robin Edgar



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## From Lyndon Harris



Dear Ones,

In light of the NZ mosque attacks, at our March 17th service, I felt compelled to change my sermon from the Parable of the Prodigal Son in order to address the crisis of the attacks on the NZ mosques and increasing manifestations of violence. We discussed and deconstructed what theologian Walter Wink called the “myth of redemptive violence.” As humanist people of spirit and conscience, I think we need to be vigilant about such matters, and if possible, be responsive to the needs of our local Muslim sisters and brothers who may be suffering, who may be fearful, and who may be anxious. We also must remember the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, attacked recently, and other communities of faith, including the Mother Emmanuel Church in Charleston attacked in the recent past.

There’s no future in violence and revenge. Let us remember Dr. King’s sage words on this:

“The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy, instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

As people of faith and people of conscience whose seven pillars undergird our non-violent humanistic commitments as a fellowship, in my opinion it is vital that we not go on with business as usual, but find constructive ways to resist the temptation to let these events fade into the background. We must find ways to embody the love of Dr. King’s dream.

There are things we can do in response, standing in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Auckland, and with all others who have been and are being persecuted for their faith. Let us work for that beloved community we’ve been discussing. Let us put legs on our prayers and good intentions by finding ways to connect. We can write letters. We can make visits. We can meditate and pray to bring about, little by little, that “more beautiful world our hearts know is possible.”

Yours in hope,  
Lyndon Harris

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941 Old Fairview Rd  
Asheville, NC 28803  
828-277-5505

Islamic Society of Greenville  
96 Meridian Ave  
Taylors, SC 29687  
Tel. 864-498-4055

Islamic Society of Spartanburg  
377 Successful Way  
Spartanburg, SC 29303

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# Upcoming Services

**April 7, 2019**

**At current location: 835 N. Trade Street**

**"The Prodigal Son"  
(Rescheduled from March 17)**

**Lyndon Harris**

To me, one of the most beloved teachings of Jesus is his parable of the Prodigal Son. In this parable, love and forgiveness abound, even as a disgruntled older son refuses to participate. Some of the details of the story are shocking such as the idea that a Jewish son would be so desperate as to resort to feeding swine in order to survive. But even more shocking is the magnanimous love of a Middle Eastern patriarch for a son who, by any reasonable metric, would be considered disqualified and unworthy. But perhaps the timeless nature of the parable of the Prodigal Son has more to do with our own identification with the prodigal. The experience of loneliness, exile, and hunger are common to many of us at one time or another. Perhaps, like the Prodigal, we're just trying to find our way home to a table where we are welcome and cherished. What secrets might this parable impart to us modern day prodigals as we seek to find our place in a community where we are cherished? Where our needs are met? Where we are blessed with meaningful work? Where we are able to grow closer to our full potential as blessed human beings? Join us on April 7th, and let's explore what it means to journey toward "home" together.

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**April 21, 2019**

**At NEW LOCATION: Sunnydale, 328 S. Trade St., Tryon (between IGA and Dollar Store)**

**"A Kaleidoscope of Faiths: A Conversation about Easter and Passover"**

**Lyndon Harris**

The majority of the world's Christians observe Easter on April 21. The Jewish holiday of Passover begins on Friday, April 19 and continues through April 27. These two faith traditions have had a significant impact on Western culture and history. But what might they mean for us today? Bypassing the conundrum of a resurrected body, the Rev. Dr. F. Forrester Church, who served the Unitarian Church of All Souls in New York City as senior minister and minister of public theology, approaches Easter by delving into the question that Jesus' death poses to each of us: "Are we living in such a way that our lives will prove worth dying for?" In other words, are we living lives committed to our most cherished principles of dignity and respect, compassion and kindness for all? This Easter will present an opportunity for us to explore and recommit ourselves to our most cherished values.

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*UUFCF services are held at 10:30 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at*

*April 7 - 835 N. Trade St., Tryon (last time at this location)  
April 21 on – NEW LOCATION: Sunnydale, 328 S. Trade St., Tryon*

*Coffee, light refreshments and fellowship follow our services.*

Thank you to our Sunday helpers in March: Greeters Maria Lund and Nan and Bob Covert; Chalice Lighters Robin Edgar and Gretchen Boyd; and Hosts Marie King and Maria Lund.

April helpers will be: Greeters Joy and Jerry Soderquist, Chalice Lighter Christine Mariotti, and Hosts Nan and Bob Covert on April 7; Greeter Maria Lund, Chalice Lighter Nan Covert, and Hosts Cathy and Nick Fischer on April 21.

*Sign-up sheets to volunteer for providing snacks for coffee, a quote for the chalice lighting, and to be a greeter at the door are on the back table at each service.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sheila and Phil Nungesser** would like to share the following regarding the upcoming SUUSU (Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute,) a week-long summer program of workshops, nature trips, musical events and worship services for Unitarian Universalists throughout the southeast...and the entire country. It has been an annual event for almost 70 years, and now it is being held at Western Carolina University.

Below is information about this year's theme, "Sacred Spaces". Phil and Sheila have attended in the past and are happy to speak further about it.



The 2019 Southeast Unitarian-Universalist Summer Institute will be held from July 14-20 on the Western Carolina University campus in Cullowhee, NC, in the heart of the Smoky Mountains. The catalog lists our hundreds of workshops, nature trips, and sports & games activities available, as well as this year's lineup of worship leaders and concert hour musicians.

Most people prefer the electronic version of the catalog, but if you'd prefer a paper copy, you can order one through Amazon for \$11.45.

SUUSU • July 14-20, 2019  
Western Carolina University

Registration will open on **April 6, 2019 at 7pm**. Be sure to register by May 23 to receive \$50 off the registration fee for *each member* of your family group.

Questions about registration? Contact our registrar, Connie Moore, at [registration@suusi.org](mailto:registration@suusi.org). Coming to SUUSI for the first time? Our newcomer coordinator, Dianna MacPherson, would love to hear from you and answer your questions. Contact her at [newcomers@suusi.org](mailto:newcomers@suusi.org).

[View 2019 Catalog Now](#)

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**From Gretchen Boyd:**

**Summer Feed-a-Kid** (a program of Thermal Belt Outreach providing food to nutritionally at-risk children in Polk County during summer months) is coming! Stay tuned for more information on how you can help.

**What is a "donor of record"?**

Our membership has approved the revisions to our bylaws. Included is the provision that one must be a financial "donor of record" in order to be a Member or Friend of the Fellowship. A contributor is automatically a donor of record if the contribution is made by check; those who prefer to contribute cash need only put their contribution in an envelope with their name on it. Please see Gretchen if you have any questions.

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**From our friends at the Congregational Church, UCC – Jesus Christ Superstar Sing Along -- Sunday, April 14 (Palm Sunday) at Tryon Theatre – 7:00pm-9:00pm.**

