



THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP *of the Carolina Foothills*

Virtual Services via Zoom on the first and third Sundays of each month during the pandemic



Chatting in Columbus

Happening in July:

- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 5 – UUF CF Virtual Service**
- July 14 – Bastille Day →
- July 19 – National Ice Cream Day
- July 19 – UUF CF Virtual Service**
- July 23 – Gorgeous Grandma Day
- July 30 – International Day of Friendship



Sunday July 5, 2020 at 10:30 -- Lyndon Harris
Seeking Sanity in Crazy Times: Finding Inner Peace in the Midst of Outer Turmoil

Life has been a little crazy lately. With so many challenges going on, is it possible to maintain a sense of balance? While there are many voices telling us that we must be mindful of safety protocols because of external circumstances, we must also be mindful of inner safety. Martin Luther King once said “be the peace you wish to see in the world.” By finding peace within ourselves, we contribute to the peace in the world. Join us for some thoughts and a conversation about how we might do this, connecting the dots between internal and external peace, and why it’s vital for our health.

Join Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97915011814>
 Or by Phone: +1 646 876 9923 (Mtg. #97915011814)



Sunday July 19, 2020 -Lyndon Harris
“In medias res”



Homer began his epic poems **“In medias res”**. Those aren’t the words in his poems, but it’s the term for starting a writing in the middle of things. Today we find ourselves in the middle of a *lot* of things, challenging things: a surging global pandemic, civil unrest in response to the murder of George Floyd, and grave financial uncertainties. And we long for a return to “normal” – whatever that is. But being in the middle of things brings with it an unexpected grace – the opportunity to reimagine our life together, to change things we no longer accept, and to rewrite our destiny. Being in the middle of things might be unsettling, but we are all still capable of influencing the outcome, we are still able to work for a more just, compassionate, kind and hopeful future. But how do we do that? And how do we take care of ourselves on the journey? Join us to hear some thoughts about this journey, drawing from many resources, followed by conversation.

Join Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98935504906>
 Or by Phone: +1 646 876 9923
 (Mtg. #98935504906)

June 21, 2020

Dear members and friends,

It is with great joy that I write this final letter to you as president of UUFCF. First and foremost, it is my pleasure to introduce you to your newly elected in-coming UUFCF Board members:

President: Barbara Moffitt
Vice President: Christine Mariotti
Secretary: Don Greeson
Treasurer: Becky Kraai
Member at Large: Annie Ewing



Secondly, it with utmost pride that I thank the out-going Board members that have served our congregation with me for the past two years (please note that Gretchen Boyd and Barbara Moffitt have served on the Board more years than they can keep track of anymore):

Vice President: Nick Fischer
Secretary: Cathy Fischer
Treasurer: Gretchen Boyd
Member at Large: Barbara Moffitt

We have accomplished many things, large and small, since I took office two years ago:

- We rewrote our Mission Statement, as decided by the members of our congregation, and developed committees to further the Fellowship's work towards its stated goals. As a shared ministry, the Board worked with our minister to orient us by those core values.
- To be more ecologically friendly, we printed permanent, reusable orders of service and stopped using plastic ware at our refreshment table.
- Once Rev. Ernie Mills completed his contract, we invited Lyndon Harris to provide our bi-monthly sermons.
- After many years of discussion prior to my taking office, we finally changed our bylaws and did due diligence to change our name from Thermal Belt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Carolina Foothills.
- We created a new, enhanced website and Facebook page as well as a Google Business page.
- We provided two separate sessions of CommUnity Conversations, the first focused on forgiveness and the second on the topics of forgiveness, listening, and talking to people of opposing views. (We had to cancel the third session due to COVID-19, but hope to resume them once the coast is clear.)
- Moving to our location the historic Sunnydale log cabin, we obtained a larger, more welcoming space to grow into as well as more visibility in the community.
- We raised the funds to put on two CommUnity Coffee Houses, starting with the Deeper Than the Skin Concert with Greg Greenway and Reggie Harris and then with a CommUnity Valentine's Dance with the Jim Peterman Quartet. (These were both very well received by the community and so successful that we now have enough funds to put on another concert once it is safe to congregate in large groups again.)

As we move into our new fiscal year, please welcome our new Board members and thank them for stepping up to serve. They will now be responsible to manage our ministry's resources, communications, and committees to move us toward our mission to "...promote an open, active, and welcoming community that recognizes the worth and dignity of each human being."

It certainly has been a pleasure to serve with all of you!

Robin

Robin Edgar

From our new president

Greetings!

Bright Blessings and Hello to each and all of us! JUST in case it hasn't been noticed, CHANGE is upon us--new church year, new church board, new health concerns, new ways of being with others....I have to keep reminding myself that change itself is neither good nor bad, but that my own response to change is key. That is what I'm learning anew, and I ask that you all bear with us as we adapt and grow with the changes we all are and will be experiencing this year. I hope to speak with each of you often, and I'll ask that each of you reach out to at least two others of our small fellowship as you can. Please let us know of any needs or concerns you may notice or have. Change does happen—will we or nil we—but it also provides opportunity.



Barbara

Barbara Moffitt
President, UUFCF



Lyndon's Letter

June 21, 2020

Dear Ones,

How beautiful it was to see many of you on our ZOOM call this morning. I want to wish all the fathers a happy Fathers' Day, and to everyone, a blessed spring equinox.

Today was our annual meeting, followed by a virtual picnic. We elected new board members and approved a budget for the next program year. I am grateful. I am especially grateful for those who have served as board members, and those newly elected, as we look forward to our upcoming fiscal year. Well done!

I look forward to a beautiful year ahead, full of possibilities to serve one another, and to serve our community.

*Affectionately,
Lyndon*



Unitarian Universalist affirmation:

*“Love is our doctrine,
the quest for truth is our sacrament,
and service is our prayer.”*

Mastaki Family Update June 2020

As part of our social justice and community outreach, our Fellowship continues to help the Mastaki family. Robin Edgar has worked with Riziki Mastaki, who came here as a political refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the 1990s, since 2010 to navigate the daunting bureaucratic hoops to bring her parents, Dominique and Josephine to this country as legal immigrants.



About four year ago, our Fellowship's set up a separate fund for members and friends to assist with the immigrations process. Almost all of the paperwork is in place to bring her younger sibling, Sylvie, to America but, unfortunately, with COVID-19 still looming, that process has been delayed.

Now that the coronavirus has arrived in Goma, the Mastaki's son who is caring for Sylvie can no longer work. To make matters worse, Riziki's sister, Feza, just lost her 25 year-old son, Brinelle Muziga, the Mastaki's first grandson, to rebel gunfire.

The Finance Committee recently decided to send \$250 from our outreach budget to help defray the cost that the Mastaki's now face to support their family in Goma, especially since Riziki is on unemployment. If you would like more information about the Mastaki family and how you can help them, please contact Robin Edgar via email at 2robinedgar@gmail.com or call 864-457-7557.

*The following is reprinted from **Singing the Living Tradition**, the Unitarian Universalist Association hymnal. This passage is Reading #580:*

The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bonds that bind each to all. There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives and the lives of others. Once felt, it inspires us to act for justice.

It is the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice on our own, but as members of a larger community. The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen, and our strength too limited to do all that must be done. Together, our vision widens and our strength is renewed.



News and Announcements are welcome in our Nuusletter. Email your contributions to dgreeson1@gmail.com