



# THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP *of the Carolina Foothills*

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



*Charming but quiet Landrum*

## This Month:

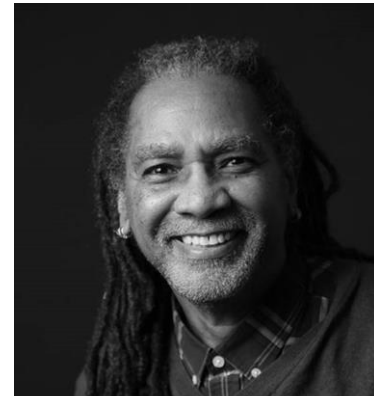
- June 4 - Hug Your Cat Day
- June 7 - UUFCF Service on Zoom
- June 14 - Flag Day
- June 20 - Summer Solstice
- June 21 - UUFCF Annual Mtg on Zoom
- June 21 - Father's Day



Sunday, June 7, 2020

## Gandhi, Dr. King, and Buddhism on Suffering

My goal is to provide you with a Christian, Buddhist, and Hindu understanding of suffering, using Dr. King to represent the liberal Christian perspective. The Hindu perspective will be provided by Gandhi's teachings. The Buddhist perspective will come from the teachings of the Buddha. In this way, you may perhaps view suffering differently—your own as well as the suffering of others, especially since suffering is not going anywhere anytime soon. For those of you with an activist spirit, this talk may assist you in weathering the storms, which will most assuredly come your way in your work. Bear in mind that although Dr. King learned this philosophy from Gandhi, that unearned suffering is redemptive, this is still an Eastern teaching as is Buddhism.



*Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Rev. Michael J. Carter moved to New York City in 1980 and lived there for 25 years, working as a professional actor before moving to Asheville with his family. An ordained Inter-faith minister, he received his BA Degree in Letters from the College of New Rochelle, where he graduated cum laude, and received his Masters In Divinity Degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City in 2000. Rev. Carter now serves as the minister for Unitarian Universalist Congregation of The Swannanoa Valley, in Black Mountain, NC.*

Join by computer: <https://zoom.us/j/96389093826>

Join by phone: +1 301-715-8592, Meeting ID 96389093826#

Or... +1 312-626-6799, Meeting ID 96389093826#

Sunday, June 21, 2020

## UUFCF Annual Meeting and Virtual Picnic

It's that time of year when we hold our annual meeting to hear a financial report from our Treasurer and vote on the slate of new board members. We traditionally hold a potluck picnic however, unless we hear otherwise and UUA continues to caution us to meet virtually, we plan to hold this meeting via Zoom. Just to add a little spice to the meeting, consider joining us outdoors (by internet or phone, of course) with your favorite picnic dish. Perhaps we can even share some recipes! Cathy Fischer is inviting our virtual attendees of the annual meeting to email her photos of themselves with their picnic so that she can share this first virtual picnic together on our Facebook Page for posterity. Send them to [catfisch111@gmail.com](mailto:catfisch111@gmail.com).

Join by computer: <https://zoom.us/j/99958316221>

Join by phone: +1 646-876-9923, Meeting ID 99958316221#

### New to Zoom? It's really easy!

We've enjoyed success with our virtual services. If you've not yet tried it and want to learn more about Zoom, take a minute to review this brief video:

<https://support.zoom.us>  
and click on "Join a Meeting"



## Lyndon's Letter



*Dear Ones,*

Today is the Tuesday after Memorial Day. I trust you had a good and meaningful weekend, as we remember those who have died in the US Armed Services over the years. According to History.com, this day used to be known as “Decoration Day” – a day on which the grave sites of the fallen were decorated with flowers and an American flag to remember their sacrifice.

Today, it seems, Memorial Day is synonymous with the start of summer, and a great day to get a new washing machine.

But the original meaning of Memorial Day, a time of remembrance, resonates with an ancient understanding of individual and collective grief and sorrow, called lamentation. Lamentation is an ancient Biblical practice of mourning, and an inconsolable acknowledgement of grief. The Book of Lamentations in the Old Testament, originally ascribed as written by the prophet Jeremiah, is a collection of funeral poems, lamenting the fall of Jerusalem to Babylon, beginning with the siege of Jerusalem in the year 597 BCE. Here's one of the most famous passages: “A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more (Jeremiah 31:15). Rachel, the beloved wife of Jacob and mother of Joseph, is publicly lamenting the loss of their country, their people, and their land.

Today, or perhaps tomorrow, we will surpass a lamentable milestone - the 100,000 mark for people who have died from COVID-19. 100,000 people *dead!* It seems to me that, if I become quiet and listen closely - as revelers flock to beaches, and as un-masked armed protesters surge on state capitals demanding their freedom from sheltering in place – off in a distance, I can hear the faint echoes of Rachel weeping.

And now, on a positive note, even though we remain physically distant, June promises to be a fun one for our fellowship. On June 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have guest speaker Rev. Michael Carter with us. He will share “Gandhi, Dr. King, and Buddhism on Suffering” about the Christian, Buddhist, and Hindu understanding of suffering. And on June 21<sup>st</sup>, we are planning to have our annual meeting and picnic potluck, virtual style. More details on that to follow.

*Affectionately,  
Lyndon*

### A Note of Thanks from Jane Digget

*"I appreciate the wonderful cards of sympathy. They were an inspiration for keeping me moving forward in this time of sadness. Please send any donations in Whit's honor to Paralyzed Veterans of America or St. Jude's Hospital."*

## Board Members for 2020-2021 – Slate of Candidates

This year's Board of Trustees election will be held virtually, that is, via email. Details will of how and when will be announced in the coming days. In the meantime, here is a list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee (Dave Edgar and Maria Lund) and approved by the current Board for a term that will begin in June.



Barbara Moffatt  
*President*



Christine Mariotti  
*Vice President*



Becky Kraai  
*Treasurer*



Don Greeson  
*Secretary*



Annie Ewing  
*Member at Large*

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### Reprinted from UU World's "Media Roundup"

► **Published May 19:** The Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County in Brevard, North Carolina, have created the Chalice Project, which invites community members to create tea-light sized chalices for an outdoor chalice lighting, which will hopefully take place in June. (*Transylvania Times*, May 15)

► **Published May 26:** Despite demands from the White House that governors allow houses of worship to reopen, most UU congregations will remain closed until deliberate, science-based reopening procedures can be planned. The Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer of First UU Church of Rochester, Minnesota, said, "I think what we provide in terms of spiritual well-being and emotional support to folks is essential and we can do it without opening our doors and putting vulnerable people at risk. I actually think it's a moral and ethical imperative for us to keep our communities healthy and our members safe." (*Fox 47*, May 22)

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#### Unitarian Universalist affirmation:

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

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*News and Announcements are welcome in our Nuusletter.  
Email your contributions to [dgreeson1@gmail.com](mailto:dgreeson1@gmail.com)*

