



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship *of the Carolina Foothills*

Services at 10:30 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at [Sunnydale](#)
334 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC • Mailing Address: P.O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782
For more information, go to: www.uufcf.org Like/follow us on Facebook @ UUFCF



Reminder...

Please don't park in front of the Dollar Store next door; Vehicles may be towed.



Catching up...



• **Valentine's Day Dance**
February 14's Coffee House was a huge success. A sold-out crowd, including many guests, shimmied and swayed to the Jim Peterson Quartet for three fun-filled hours.



• **Fellowship Volunteers**
Thanks to our February volunteers: Greeters: Maria Lund, Janice Minschew; Chalice Quotes – Wendy West, Maria Lund; Hospitality – Kathy & Nick Fischer, Jim & Janice Minschew

• **Taking action:** *The Fellowship will be providing postcards in upcoming services for those who want to send a message to government officials. An easy way to express your opinion!*

Sunday, March 1, 2020 Service by Lyndon Harris

Sacred Memory and Open Future

Thoughts on Being a Progressive Spiritual Community in a Small Southern Town, in Honor of Our 30th Anniversary Year of UUFCF

With about 200,000 members in the US (and approximately 4,000 in NC), Unitarian Universalism is small in comparison to other faith and spiritual communities. What are some of the distinctive traits of our fellowship? And how do these traits interface with other spiritual communities, especially in smaller towns in the South? This presentation will highlight milestones in the history of our fellowship here in the Thermal Belt and explore ideas about our distinctive offering here in Tryon, NC, moving forward.



Sunday, March 15, 2020 Service by Diane Richard-Allerdyce

Addressing Hunger with Action, Compassion & Social Justice

The writer Margaret Atwood said, "Eating . . . our earliest metaphor, preceding our consciousness of gender, race, nationality and language. We eat before we talk." Yet food is more than metaphor. It is a necessary element for survival, and world hunger remains one of the planet's most pressing social justice issues. Drawing upon excerpts from literature, facts & statistics, and examples of real-life activism, we will consider ways to address hunger on individual and local levels, and beyond.



A professor, poet, scholar, and educational activist, Diane Richard-Allerdyce has spoken on social justice issues in the classroom, at conferences, and, occasionally, at UU gatherings. She serves as Chair of Humanities in the Ph.D. Program at Union Institute & University and is the co-founder of the Florida non-profit Center for Education, Training & Holistic Approaches, Inc. (CETHA), which runs the Toussaint L'Ouverture High School for Arts & Social Justice and Teaching by Heart, a professional development program for teachers in Haiti.

Lyndon's Letter



Dear Ones,

As I write this, snow is gently falling here in Zirconia – small flakes. But small flakes, over the course of the day, can gather into a plush white blanket, covering the ground, covering the tree branches, covering the deck. Small flakes, over time, can make a substantial difference.

This seems to me to be the perfect metaphor for our Fellowship (not that we're snowflakes!) but that we're a fellowship of humble beginnings that began thirty years ago and continues to thrive. According to our history, "on Friday, March 2, 1990, a short advertisement appeared in the Tryon Daily Bulletin asking 'Unitarians, Humanists, or other like-minded persons who would be interested in forming a Thermal Belt Fellowship' to call a local telephone number." Twenty people came.

Among the group's first articles of incorporation was this statement which contains, I think, the spiritual DNA of our circle: "The Fellowship is bound by the common purpose of human betterment through the never-ending search for truth. In accordance with advancing knowledge and the growing vision of humankind, the Fellowship is committed to freedom of belief. Unified in spirit, the Fellowship holds a diversity of convictions. We believe in the importance of a religious community that recognizes the worth and dignity of each human being."

On March 1st, in honor of that initial advertisement calling like-minded individuals into community, I will offer a reflection on our history, and offer some thoughts and invite conversation about our open future, our possibilities and promise, as well as our challenges.

Warmly,

Lyndon

I am so excited to announce that, in affiliation with UUFCF, I will be bringing one of the brightest musical luminaries of our time to Sunnydale Cabin. UK musical sensation Martyn Joseph will be on a rare Western NC tour, and I grabbed a concert date from him. I have known Martyn and his music since 2000, when I met him at a huge spiritual arts festival he helps coordinate and lead in the UK called the Greenbelt Festival. In 2017, Maria and I went with Martyn to Palestine to be in solidarity with the people living in the Occupied Territories. This will be my fifth time over the years booking Martyn in various venues, and I can tell you, he's not to be missed. We're calling this Coffee House "Standing on the Side of Love" and I know you will love it. Details are found in the poster on the back page. Help us spread the word! Thanks so much, L



Martyn in Palestine

Unitarian Universalist affirmation:

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

Lyndon Harris & Maria Lund – *Part 1: Lyndon*

*Editor's Note: It seemed like a good idea to profile these two as a couple, but there's simply too much information to share in one article. In the April Nuusletter we will focus on **Part 2: Maria***



We all know them...or do we? They only married in 2018—August 4, to be exact—but both have amazing stories before becoming a couple. Since Lyndon was born long before Maria (!) let's begin with him. He was the third in the sibling order, with an older brother and sister and a younger sister. He played sports in school, graduated from *Wofford College* in 1983, and attended Sewanee, Tennessee's *University of the South* to become an Episcopal priest, graduating in 1990. After serving South Carolina churches in Lexington and Spartanburg, Father Harris made the fateful choice to abandon his pastoral Palmetto State for the bright lights of Manhattan, where he became a doctoral student at the storied Episcopal institution *General Theological Seminary*. Lyndon was assigned a post in 2001 at the famous *St. Paul's Chapel*, the tallest building in New York when it was built in 1766 and the same church George Washington attended on his inauguration day. But only

months after Lyndon arrived, the Chapel became a landmark for yet another reason. Virtually across the street, the World Trade Center's twin towers were attacked and collapsed. Wikipedia lists a number of programs and services the "Little Church that Stood" began for first responders, but what it doesn't say is that our Lyndon Harris was behind them...counseling, meals, massage therapy, concerts, and more. Over a half million meals were served there, many provided by the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. But the efforts were exhausting, and Lyndon, who experienced many of the same illness symptoms as the firemen and workers, left after a year to serve as a consultant for at the *Cathedral of St. John the Divine* and over time to serve other Episcopal congregations. In 2006 he and Stanford University's Fred Luskin were profiled in the film *The Power of Forgiveness*, an award-winning documentary, and in the process visited Lebanon's "Garden of Forgiveness." Lyndon eventually moved to Los Angeles to expand on the subject, creating forgiveness programs and workshops. It was in some ways cathartic, a way to (forgive the pun) let the dust settle. His health had suffered, his marriage had ended. He had witnessed firsthand the corruption most of us only hear about in the news. As his mission matured, he joined forces with Malibu's *Creative Visions Foundation*. The chance to return to his Carolina roots came when a woman named Posie Jackson invited him to join her at Tigg's Pond, a retreat center just south of Hendersonville. Lyndon describes his role there as "Cruise Director," but it was really a chance to provide creative programming and sponsor forgiveness workshops. Tigg's Pond was sold in 2017, but by then Lyndon had another interest...he'd just met a girl named Maria! Today he says his dreams have come true...not only has he married the woman of his dreams, he's finally bought that VW van he never had as a kid and gave it the novel name "*Prince of Rides*." Lyndon's only daughter lives with her husband in Charleston, SC and has provided Grandpa Harris a grandson and twin granddaughters. Lyndon's had quite a ride himself!

*Nuusletter Contributions may be emailed to Don at dgreeson1@gmail.com
Personal announcements such as awards, new exhibits etc. are welcome.*

ONE NIGHT ONLY! 7PM TUES, MAR 24, 2020



Standing on the Side of Love *Coffee House* Presents

UK Sensation

MARTYN JOSEPH

**“Charismatic
and electrifying”**

-Tom Robinson, BBC6

**“A profound
experience”**

-The Boston Globe

**“Written with craft,
performed with
passion”**

-Financial Times

At the historic Sunnydale Cabin, 334 S. Trade St, Tryon, NC
All Seats \$20: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4531272
\$20 at the door night of performance unless sold out