



# THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

## *of the Carolina Foothills*

Virtual Services via Zoom on the first and third Sundays of each month during the pandemic  
Mailing Address: UUFCF, P. O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782



### Happening in April

April 1 – April Fool's Day  
April 4 – Easter Sunday  
**April 4 – UUFCF Virtual Service**  
April 11 – National Pet Day  
**April 18 – UUFCF Virtual Service**  
April 22 – Earth Day  
April 30 – Arbor Day



*Tryon's massive Vaughn Creek Tunnel, built in 1943 to support the railroad*

*Sunday, April 4, 2021 – Lyndon Harris*

## *Easter*

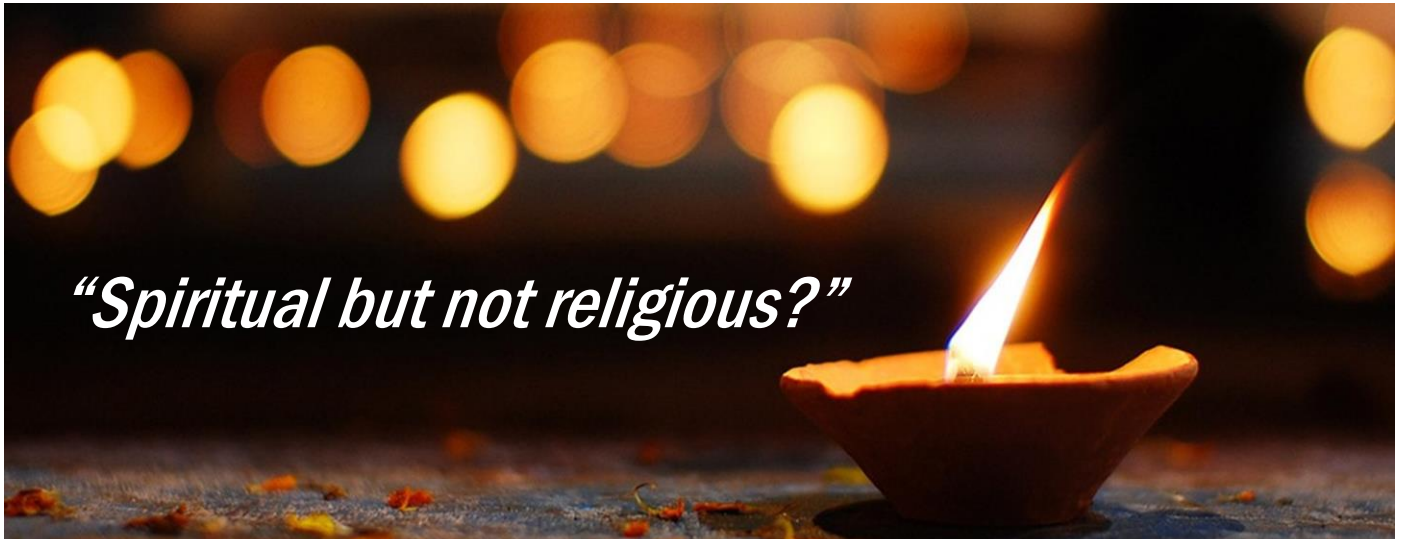


What does Easter mean for Unitarian Universalism? Join us as we explore the UU traditions and rituals associated with Easter and the exciting renewal that comes with Spring. Lyndon will reflect on the significance of the connection between Ostara and Easter, and what that might mean for our celebration today.

*Join the conversation at 10:30 on April 4.*

Just go to <https://zoom.us/j/99811665596>

or by phone 646-876-9923 - Meeting #998 1166 5596



## *“Spiritual but not religious?”*



***Sunday, April 18, 2021 - The Rev. Dr. Neal Jones***

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, we are fortunate to have with us, as guest speaker, a new friend, Neal Jones. The Rev. Dr. Neal Jones is a retired UU minister and is a psychologist at the Pisgah Institute in Asheville. Neal has pastored five churches, most recently being the Main Line Unitarian Church near Philadelphia, PA. Neal submits: *More and more Americans are describing themselves as "spiritual but not religious." What does it mean to be spiritual? This recovering Baptist turned humanist UU minister will share his understanding of spirituality.*

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## A Little Humanist Humor

*“Spiritual but not religious” is a phrase sometimes used by UUs as shorthand to say they don’t subscribe to conservative church dogma. Here’s a few lighthearted jabs at our denomination’s perspective on some church teachings.*

Q: How does a UU walk on water?

A: She waits until winter.

UU’s are basically good people, who, for the most part, try to live by the 10 suggestions.

Q: What do you get when you cross a UU with a Jehovah’s Witness?

A: Someone who knocks on your door for no apparent reason.

A visitor to a Unitarian Universalist church sat through the sermon with growing incredulity at the heretical ideas being spouted. After the sermon a UU asked the visitor, “So how did you like it?”

“I can’t believe half the things that minister said!” sputtered the visitor in outrage.

“Oh, good—then you’ll fit right in!”

Q: Why did the UU cross the road?

A: To support the chicken in its search for its own path.



## Lyndon's Letter



Dear Ones,

It's been a long winter's ride on the corona-coaster, but signs of new life and new possibilities seem imminent. Coincidental with the beautiful signing of the birds, the budding of trees and flowers, and the warming weather is the reality that over 140 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccines have been given. There is great promise and hope on the horizon folks!

That's what Easter is all about: the promise of new beginnings. For Christians the world over, Easter is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. For humanists and other non-dogmatic faith traditions, this is a time celebrating renewal and rebirth of the natural world. The renewal and blessedness of life that comes from the warming sun.

I'm in. It's been a long time coming.

Only April 4<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Easter together. We will explore what it means for Unitarian Universalists to observe Easter, and we'll consider the traditions and rituals of Unitarian Universalism that are practiced and embraced this time of year.

Sending best wishes and warmest greetings to you all,

*Lyndon*

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## UU News

► **The Mountain**, the Unitarian Retreat Center located four miles from Highlands, NC, is having an Easter volunteer work (and play) weekend April 2-4. Of course this is not much notice, but if you're not familiar with this beautiful retreat it might be an excuse to check out their website and retreat schedule. Go to <https://www.themountainrlc.org>

► **The UU General Assembly** will be meeting in Minneapolis this year in June. One of the silver linings of having to stay at home is learning to meet virtually, and we've been invited to attend the big church service there streamed on <https://www.uua.org> on June 27 at noon.

► Board Nominations for our fellowship are due. If you have interest in serving on our board, contact Maria Lund at 803-530-2748 or Jim Minshew at 772-285-8825. Also, a reminder that all members are welcome to attend board meetings, and trustees welcome your comments and suggestions.

*Email your announcements for the Nuusletter to [dgreeson1@gmail.com](mailto:dgreeson1@gmail.com).*

Also, feel free to contact any of the Board of Trustees with your questions, comments or concerns.

President: Barbara Moffitt – 443-535-7632 • Vice-President: Christine Mariotti – 828-859-8392

Treasurer: Becky Kraai – 207-210-2086 • Secretary: Don Greeson – 828-290-3627

Member at Large: Annie Ewing – 864-457-7278



## ***The Seven Principles***

### 1st Principle:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

### 2nd Principle:

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

### 3rd Principle:

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

### 4th Principle:

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

### 5th Principle:

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

### 6th Principle:

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

### 7th Principle:

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

# ***The Foundation of our Seven Principles***

*Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven **Principles**, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. We live out these **Principles** within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience. These are the six sources our congregations affirm and promote:*

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Rev. Kathleen Rolenz of the UU Church of Annapolis said, “Throughout history, we have moved to the rhythms of mystery and wonder, prophecy, wisdom, teachings from ancient and

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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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