



Our Unitarian Universalist Fellowship's Nuusletter for October, 2021

Now wearing masks and meeting at
The Whimsical World Gallery
116 Jones Street in Landrum, SC
Mailing Address:
UUFCF, P. O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782

Happening This Month

Oct. 3 – Service at 10:30
Oct. 10 – Indigenous People Day
(was Columbus Day)
Oct. 17 – Service at 10:30
Oct. 31 – Halloween



Downtown Landrum



Sunday, October 3, 2021 – Lyndon Harris

The Feast of Saint Francis

On the first Sunday in the beautiful month of October, we invite you to join us as we celebrate and appreciate the natural order – “stars, galaxies, planets, and this fragile earth our island home.” We will honor the legacies of Francis of Assisi, Carl Sagan, and begin a discussion of the cosmos and spirituality.

Sunday, October 17, 2021 – Lyndon Harris

Intersections of SCIENCE and SPIRITUALITY: How Do We Connect the Dots?

The rate of our discoveries and new insights about the universe and the natural order is *breathhtaking*: new particles discovered in the Particle Accelerator in CERN, surprising new understandings of black holes, and continued accessibility by scientists into the human genome. This breakneck pace of discovery is matched, however, by what appears to be our hasty collision with various doomsday scenarios: war, rising water levels, fires, scarcity of water, etc. But these two poles of our reality are best held in balance through our spirituality. Come join us for an exciting continuing conversation about the intersection of science and spirituality, and why that matters in our daily lives.



Email your announcements for the Nuusletter to 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



Lyndon's Letter



Dear Ones,

Maria and I have just returned from a whirlwind trip to NYC for ceremonies commemorating the 20th anniversary of the September 11th tragedy. As many of you know, this was for me a bit of a nervous journey: returning to the place where I was 20 years ago, right in the maelstrom of the attacks. From what I've learned about trauma over the years, it could have become a trigger for me. Thankfully, it wasn't.

I had many sad moments remembering the challenges we faced in lower Manhattan after the attacks. I had many heartfelt moments remembering what it was like to be part of the community of service at Saint Paul's Chapel, a community I helped organize and oversaw for 8.5 months. It was bittersweet. Maria's loving support made all the difference in the world for me.

One of the main takeaways for me regarding the 20th anniversary of 9/11 was the vital importance of *how we remember*, or how we practice the dictum, "Never forget." I wrote a piece for the bulletin of the "Calling of the Names" ceremony at Saint Paul's Chapel, and I'll share it with you below.

On another note, it's good to be back! Autumn is upon us, and this season is our region's glory. The crisp air, the striking blue skies, the turning of the leaves, and apples. Let's not forget the apples!

In keeping with the beauty of this season, for our first Sunday in October I'll offer a reflection on the exquisite beauty of the natural world, and our interconnectedness with all of its creatures, in homage to blessed Francis of Assisi (Italian friar, 1181-1226). Francis embodied an extravagant love for animals, earning for himself the identity of "patron saint of bird baths." We'll also explore contemporary understandings of the natural order, including Carl Sagan's "Pale Blue Dot." So please mark your calendars and join us for October 3rd at 10:30 AM at the Whimsical World Gallery in Landrum, SC.

For the third Sunday of October, we'll continue our appreciation for creation and the natural world as we explore the intersection of contemporary science and Unitarian Universalism spirituality.

Warmly, *Lyndon*





Some Thoughts from Becky Kraai

Ways we care for others

The Unitarian Universalist 2nd Principle:

“Justice, equity and compassion in human relations”

Though our fellowship is small in number, we touch many lives. We each have different interests and gifts, and we all share them with others, whether in our homes or rippling into the community. COVID has curtailed some of these activities, yet we persist in finding ways to give our time and hearts, with a mask or distance when necessary. A few examples of these opportunities are:

- Alleviating local hunger at [Thermal Belt Outreach](#), Columbus, NC
- Delivering hot lunches for [Meals on Wheels](#), Columbus
- Providing music for Sunday services, retirement and assisted living homes
- Transporting friends for Sunday services, appointments, shopping
- Donating blood at the [Blood Connection](#)
- Video-recording Sunday services
- Caring for pets at [Foothills Humane Society](#)
- Contributing as Board members of educational, spiritual, or social organizations
- Donating to and shopping at thrift stores that support good causes



Outreach staff thanks the community



Fostering kittens

Share your experiences... or needs!

We'd love to hear about your giving experiences; they may bring joy and inspiration to others. We'd also like to hear of your own needs. We may be able to help! Email [Don](#) or write to UUFCF, PO Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782. Thank you all for the care and nourishing that you spread in our area.



Unitarian Universalist affirmation:

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



How We Remember

- **Lyndon Harris**

A Reflection for the Calling of the Names Ceremony
on the Twentieth Anniversary of September 11, 2001 at Saint Pauls Chapel, NY, NY

The tragic events of the terrorists' attacks on September 11, 2001, will live in our memories forever. Even though many in our country and the world have "moved on," for those of us who were present for the attacks, or intimately connected with the courageous work that followed, not a single day goes by without some remembrance of this traumatic experience. As familiar as our morning coffee, and, sometimes, as painful as the disquieting unfolding of a bad dream, these remembrances show up and ask for attention.

Saying we will "never forget" is both a commitment to memories of those whose lives were lost, and sometimes, perhaps, a curse – a curse in that, even if we wanted to forget, we couldn't. Such is the life of our 9/11 community; we are fused together with deep bonds of love. So, it matters how we remember. It matters how we will "never forget."

Someone asked Mr. Rogers how to speak with our children about the unsettling tragedy of 9/11. He replied, "Tell them to keep their eyes on the helpers."

We gather today, not only to remember those who died on 9/11 (may their souls, through the mercy of God, rest in peace: requiescat in pace), but also, to keep our eyes on the helpers: to remember those who worked tirelessly and heroically, desperate in their search to find any survivors; and then, ultimately, to recover and honor the remains of the dead. Many of these heroes, too, are now gone.

It matters how we remember. We gather today to remember, not the horrific acts of terrorists, but the courageous, selfless and sacrificial deeds of the fallen. We remember – vividly - here in this sacred chapel, the faces of firefighters, police officers, construction and sanitation workers, volunteers and faith leaders, who gave so much of themselves in the aftermath of 9/11. We remember them this day with deepest bows of gratitude.

Addressing assembled guests in "the little church that stood," Lyndon offers a blessing for fallen heroes and their loved ones.



On display in St. Paul's Chapel is the chasuble (priest's vestment) Lyndon wore in the months after 9/11. It is literally covered with uniform patches from appreciative first responders.