



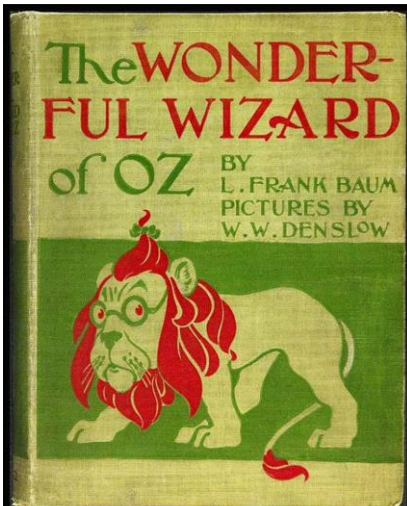
THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP *of the Carolina Foothills*

Meeting 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at the Whimsical World Gallery, 116 Jones St in Landrum, SC
Mailing Address: UUFCF, P. O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782



Happening in March

March 1 – Mardi Gras Carnival
March 6 – UUFCF Service at 10:30
March 13 – Daylight Savings begins
March 17 – St. Patrick's Day
March 20 – Spring Equinox
March 20 -- UUFCF Service at 10:30



Sunday, March 6, 2022 -- Ernie Mills

Dorothy, Toto and the Heart's Desire

In Frank Baum's children's fantasy novel, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, a young girl, Dorothy, and her dog Toto embark on a journey without distance to the Emerald City. Along the way they meet three characters who represent powers Dorothy will need to confront the greatest challenge of her journey, the Wicked Witch (the "dark side".) When Dorothy is told that she has had the power all along to find her heart's desire she returns home and discovers that it has been there all along, in her "backyard." We will explore this novel through the lens of Jungian psychology and find out what it reveals about our own personal journeys.

Sunday, March 20, 2021 -- Lyndon Harris

Courageous Aging and a Life Well Lived: *Embracing the Gifts and Challenges of Later Life*

According to The New England Journal of Medicine, the most productive stage of human life is between the years 60-70. The second most productive period is from 70 – 80! Incredible. So how do we prepare ourselves to thrive in these times, if we are blessed to live that long? What resources have been developed and discerned over the years (centuries) to inform how we might live our "best life?" Join us for some thoughts and lively conversation on what it means to age courageously!





Lyndon's Letter



Dear Ones,

With the promise of another spring comes the inevitable essential questions: should we get more chickens? What varieties of tomatoes and hot peppers shall we try this year? And what the heck will we do about our friend the bear who seems to like our chicken feed more than our hens do?

I know, perhaps you were looking for more profound existential questions about the nature of life in an ongoing pandemic, the warmongering and aggression of the Russian president, and challenges of climate change. These questions are surely of more global consequence than the first ones, right?

Yes, of course. But if we don't start where we are – if we go immediately to the global and catastrophic – we can be overwhelmed and give in to the paralysis of no easy answers and inaction. I certainly have teetered on this abyss a time or two.

But a popular refrain in recovery groups is “Just do the next right thing.” What a gift! Doing the next right thing keeps us in the present moment and keeps us from being overwhelmed. To be sure, it is important to be aware of vital global issues and active in their resolution, but we also need a balance for our mental health and progress.

Holding all of life's concerns in healthy balance, it seems to me, is one of the successful strategies for aging gracefully and manifesting a “life well lived.” These thoughts have taken up residence in my head and heart in recent weeks and I am excited to share these with you at our fellowship on March 20th in a talk I'm entitling “Courageous Aging and a Life Well Lived: Embracing the Gifts and Challenges of Later Life.”

On March 6th, we will be delighted to welcome back to the Fellowship our guest speaker, the Rev. Ernie Mills.

Stay safe and be well,

Lyndon

Welcome New Members!

At the February 6 service, our Fellowship grew by six new members. They are, left to right, Paul Petrarca, Katharine Janes, Beth Kinstler, Alisa Mosley, Thomas Kosmata, and Ellen Thomas standing with Lyndon. There are a few others who plan to join but have been unable to attend services. We look forward to getting to know all of them in the coming weeks.



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 Minister—Lyndon Harris 310-710-4322

What does it mean to be a Member of our Fellowship?

UNLIKE MANY, if not most, church denominations, Unitarian Universalists do not have a rigid dogma or parental administrative structure. The UU Association provides guidance and resources for churches and fellowships, but each individual congregation is largely responsible for its own framework and programs. This democratic process mirrors our principle of “the right of conscience.”

Nonetheless, as a spiritually conscious group, there are covenants we share. Membership provides the opportunity to be part of a fellowship that is publicly on the side of justice and compassion. Though debate and diversity are welcome and valued, we agree that no one has divine authority or religious dominion over others. For those of us who have committed to such ideals, UU membership offers a level of comfort in the knowledge that we are working together to achieve a more tolerant and peaceful world.

At the February 6 service, Lyndon passed out a flyer that he compiled to serve as a guide to our purpose and promise as a congregation. The content of that handout is reprinted here for anyone who wants to learn more or perhaps enjoy a quick refresher course on what it means to be a member.

Our Purpose

The purpose of this Fellowship is to promote and sustain liberal religious worship, study, service, and friendship--as expressed in our Seven UU Principles.

Our Mission

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Carolina Foothills (UUFCH) is affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association of North America. We seek to promote an open, active, and welcoming community that recognizes the worth and dignity of each human being. In the ongoing search for truth, we embrace freedom of thought and encourage spiritual growth. Promoting love and social justice, we strive to be a force for good in our community.

Membership Covenant

Our membership covenant is a set of shared commitments to participate in and support UUFCH. The covenant helps make clear the expectations that bond our congregation and strengthen its value for all of us. As members of UUFCH, we covenant with one another to:

- ***Participate in UUFCH's communal activities.***

Our worship services, celebrations, festivals, and other gatherings are wonderful opportunities for reflection and learning because diverse members and guests make them so. Your presence enriches our shared experiences as a community and helps make UUFCH an active, vibrant congregation. We miss you when you're not present.

- ***Help UUFCH operate.***

Members keep us up and running. We organize services, manage church finances, volunteer for kitchen duty, distribute information, clean and repair facilities, and much more. Sharing our time and talent strengthens our congregation.

- ***Care for fellow members and our larger community.***

It's essential that we commit to caring for one another through individual action and the care-related services of our fellowship. Our congregation also is enhanced by members' service to their local communities.

- ***Respect one another's beliefs and differences.***

We value the opportunity to hear and learn from people of different backgrounds, including different religions. We accept and embrace one another and demonstrate tolerance.

- ***Ensure our church's financial sustainability.***

Regular contributions (monetary or in-kind) from members allow us to maintain our facilities, support fellowship programs and projects, and pay annual dues to the Unitarian Universalist Association. It's vital that all of us contribute our fair share.

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism

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. *They are:*

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

Unitarian Universalist Sources

Unitarian Universalism draws from many Sources:

- 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.

Lyndon to Speak at TED Talk Conference

Lyndon says he's been practicing. It's one thing to have a conversation from the pulpit with familiar faces inside the Whimsical World Gallery, and quite another to stand at the front of an auditorium full of attentive strangers – with a time limit! Yet the story he will tell on February 27 in Asheville's Diana Wortham Theater is important, and one that he's been preparing for the last 20 years. It begins with witnessing a horrific tragedy that resulted in his call to serve, but turned into a personal nightmare. Ultimately this account of evil and betrayal evolves into a story of redemption, a classic “hero's journey” tale. The once challenged Father Harris is now proudly known simply as Lyndon, and his message of Forgiveness is more than a platitude...it is a mission. Tickets to the in-person event are sold out, but you can watch it in real time by purchasing virtual tickets at <https://tedxasheville.com> OR you can wait a few weeks for a free recording of it to view.

