



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 July

July 3 – UUFCF Service at 10:30
July 4 – Independence Day
July 7 – Global Forgiveness Day
July 9 – Coon Dog Day in Saluda
July 17 -- UUFCF Service at 10:30
July 21 – Rhythm & Brews in H'ville
July 29 – Robin Edgar's Book Signing
July 30 – International Friendship Day



Sunday, July 3, 2022 - Lyndon Harris

A Declaration of InTERdependence

*"When one tugs at a single thing
in nature, he finds it attached to
the rest of the world."*

— John Muir

In Berkeley, CA in 1969, Clifford Humphrey and a group of activists published a document entitled "The Unanimous Declaration of Interdependence," in *The Alternative Press* (Sept. 1969).

In 1992, in preparation for the UN Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro,

activist David Suzuki wrote a declaration of independence that became a part of the UN's Earth Charter. Ideas about interdependence and interconnectivity are not new. The seventh principle of Unitarian Universalism guides us to "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part." But what does all this mean? And how do we do it? Join us on July 3rd to participate in a thoughtful discussion about the topic.

Sunday, July 17, 2022 -- Rev. Sally Beth Shore

Creating Hope in the Time of Climate Change

These days, climate change weighs heavily on many of our minds. Even as the pandemic continues in its 3rd year, we have deep social fissures and the economy isn't doing so well. With all this going on, some even proclaim that there is no hope. But religions, when at their best, offer light even in darkness. The threats we face from climate change and other areas can seem daunting, but throughout our history Unitarian Universalism has responded constructively to threats of doom; the "father" of Universalism, Rev. John Murray, reportedly said, "Give the people not Hell, but Hope and Courage." Can we offer hope in these times, and if so, where do we find a reservoir to draw on?

Read Sally Beth's bio on the last page!





Lyndon's Letter



Dear Ones,

I may not have all the best words, but I do have some favorite words. And one of them is “serendipity,” meaning “the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way.”

Last Sunday's annual meeting and potluck at Harmon Field was serendipitous in so many ways. First, you all were there! We had a terrific gathering of our fellowship members and friends, with only a few missing. And for those who were unable to attend, we sure missed you! Second, the food was delicious. Thank you to all of you who worked hard and put tender loving care into the dishes you brought.

Also, our annual meeting was a success. A special thank you to our outgoing board members Don and Annie for your faithful service. And thank you to our new members, Gretchen and Alisa. Thank you also for our amazing board members continuing: Barb, Becky and Christine. Adding to the joys of our day together were the beautiful weather with a nice breeze blowing, and the sounds of children laughing and horses neighing. Rounding out these joys were the sounds of *Blue Wall*, our house band (Derek and Becky), with some musical guests [Annie, Terry & Lyndon.] Serendipitous. What a happy day!



On Sunday July 3rd we'll reconvene for our normal fellowship meeting at the Whimsical World Gallery in Landrum. Our topic for the day will be “A Declaration of Interdependence.” Commemorating our nation's founding and the “Declaration of Independence,” we will take a look at the necessary next steps in our evolutionary growth.

Finally, I want to share with you a decision that Maria and I have made for our future: we are exploring a possible move to Charleston within the next year to be closer to my daughter and her family. Our grandchildren are such treasures to us, and we want to cherish them while they still have time for their grandparents. We don't have any concrete plans yet, but we wanted you to be aware. Your prayers and good wishes will be gratefully received! We'll keep you posted as things develop.

Warmly,
Lyndon



Our Fellowship was not the only group of folks having a good time on June 19. As we picnicked along the Pacolet, others got in it!



"Feed-A-Kid"

The OUTREACH program to keep Polk County's children healthy

As difficult as it may be to hear, hundreds of children in Polk County are not receiving enough food at home to grow and maintain a healthy body and mind. These children may experience chronic sickness and have behavioral problems (irritable, withdrawn, anxious, etc.). They may appear extremely thin, have puffy or swollen skin and have short attention span or inability to concentrate. The UU Fellowship of the Carolina Foothills is one of six area congregations supporting the mission to safeguard the health of these kids. This year, our \$1500 pledge is primarily from individual donations, and enhanced with an additional donation from one generous donor, allowing us to contribute more than \$2000. Thanks to all who have made this possible!

Help for Ukrainian Soldiers

Anyone keeping up with the Russian invasion of Ukraine knows how perilous the conditions are in that country, and knows there are many organizations providing assistance. One of them is UUSC, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, whose primary mission is to help refugees. Robin Edgar is advocating another effort, one by a man whose interest is in protecting the lives of Ukrainian soldiers by providing them with protective vests. If you'd like to help him in this effort, contact Robin at 2robinedgar@gmail.com.



The Day Morris Went to School



Robin A. Edgar

Remember Morris?
Robin Edgar will be signing her NEW book on July 22 at Tryon's *The Book Shelf* from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

Illustrations are by
Julia Warren Calhoun.

Ukrainian Benefit Concert

Balalaika and Domra
Association of America



Cathy Fischer alerts us to a performance featuring an 80-piece Balalaika Folk Orchestra scheduled for July 16 at 7:30 pm at the Biltmore Double Tree Hotel in Asheville. For more info and tickets: <https://www.altbdaa.com/2022-festival-concert/>



"Blue Wall" (Becky & Derek) to perform

On July 24, from 12:00 to 3:00, our favorite duo will serenade the public on the plaza by Huckleberry's Restaurant in Tryon.



Email your announcements for the
Nuusletter to dgreeson1@gmail.com.

Bio: Sally Beth Shore

Sally Beth grew up in central NC, graduated from the University of North Carolina, and served in the US Peace Corps (Mali) as a forestry volunteer. She was ordained to the Unitarian Universalist ministry in 2013 after receiving her M. Div (2012) from Meadville Lombard Theological School. Shore also holds an MS in Environmental Science from UNC (1994). She has served a number of Western Carolina UU congregations, including the UUFCF from 2013-2015. Currently she consults as a professional facilitator and has just completed another MS, this time in Positive Organization Development from Case Western Reserve University. In addition to ministry, she loves gardening, bicycling, music, her husband of 31 years and their 3 adult children. On the opportunity to speak on July 17, Sally Beth says, "I'm very excited to be returning to Tryon and seeing faces familiar and new."



Profile: Alisa Mosley



One of our newest members, Alisa has already volunteered to help lead the Fellowship by becoming the Secretary to the UUFCF Board. She is well qualified—in fact, OVER qualified—for the position. Wife, mom, and only recently retired from a dynamic career in several administrative positions, Alisa brings a sophisticated level of experience to the role. A native of Landrum (can you believe it?) she attended college at USC, earning a bachelor degree in Psychology before going on to earn her master's in Higher Education and Administration. (To this day, she continues to work on her doctorate!) Her very first job was with USC's Coastal Carolina campus in Conway, SC where she spent five years in Career Services before transferring to the main campus in Columbia to become Placement

Director. In this role she helped students and potential employers find each other, and in the process found herself a husband! Thom Kosmata was one of those employers, working in management at Square D. The company known for making electrical panel boxes had recently transferred Thom from Cleveland. Alisa was now well established in her career, and at age 32, joined Thom at the altar. They lived just outside of Columbia in Lexington and had a daughter who followed in her mom's footsteps, graduating from USC and is now a successful civil engineer. In the meantime, Alisa left the USC system after 20 years to become Executive Director for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Association, where she served for another 10 years. As if that's not impressive enough, she has been involved with strategic planning and communications for other non-profits, including a SC affordable housing advocacy group. She was then asked by the governor to lead workforce housing initiatives for the State. When asked how she came to move to our area after so many years in the state capitol, Alisa explained how it was—to use Lyndon's word—serendipitous. It seems her dad, a residential contractor in the Upstate, built a beautiful home in Campobello (with a mountain view) for Alisa's brother and his wife. As fate would have it, they lived there only briefly before their divorce, and the house was sold. Not long ago, her brother called to tell her the house their now deceased dad had built was once again for sale, and Alisa decided to, you know, at least take a look at it. You can guess the rest of the story... Columbia's loss is our gain. She and Thom now reside there along with two cats. Living so close to Landrum, Alisa could have chosen to attend the church of her youth, First Baptist. But that was a long time ago, and since those days she has attended more liberal congregations, mostly Episcopalian. Like so many of us, Alisa has discovered in UUFCF a great match to her priorities, and says she is excited to be involved with our fellowship as she travels on her "faith journey." We welcome both Alisa and Thom, and we too are excited that they are part of our family.

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

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