



# THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP *of the Carolina Foothills*

Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

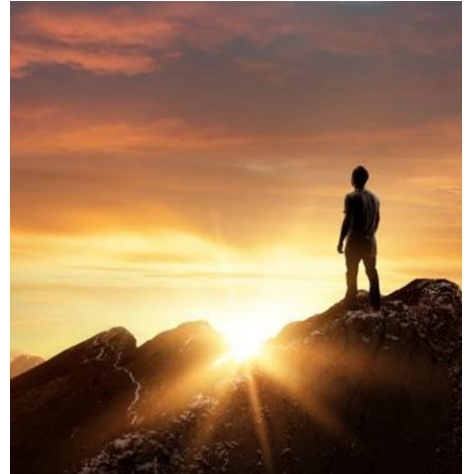
- July 2 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**  
*Reverend Ernie Mills*
- July 3 – “Buck Supermoon” (full)
- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 4 – Columbus’ 60<sup>th</sup> July 4 Festival
- July 16 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**  
*Reverend Ernie Mills*
- July 30 – “Fifth Sunday Service”  
*Reverend Jim McKinley*
- Columbus July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival*



*Sunday, July 2, 2023 at 10:30 -- Rev. Ernie Mills*

## "The Sacrifice of Finality"

The "sacrifice of finality" typically applies to the scientific enterprise. It explains, in part, why scientists are more apt to put forth theories rather than absolute, final laws. The dedicated scientist must be willing to sacrifice any desire to put an end to the enterprise. But I believe the sacrifice of finality could be applied in a more general way to life itself and especially human life. Nothing is ever really final in our lives, not even death. We are eternal beings and eternity has no end. But at a practical level we can always be widening our horizons and deepening our experience of life. There is always room to grow if we are willing to sacrifice finality.



*Sunday, July 16, 2023 at 10:30 – Rev. Ernie Mills*

## The Japanese Christ

Hoori is the title of an old Japanese myth about a hunter who, in pursuit of a lost fish hook, descends into the depths of the sea and finds a real treasure, the treasure "hard to attain." This myth from Japan offers a perfect example of the parallelism found in mythologies from around the world. The magic number in this myth and a later myth applied to Christ is the number three (3). We will see how these stories parallel and get at the core message and meaning they reveal.

*We invite you to call any of the Board of Trustees with your questions or comments.*

Chair: Alisa Mosley –803-603-9300

Vice Chair: Christine Mariotti – 828-440-1277

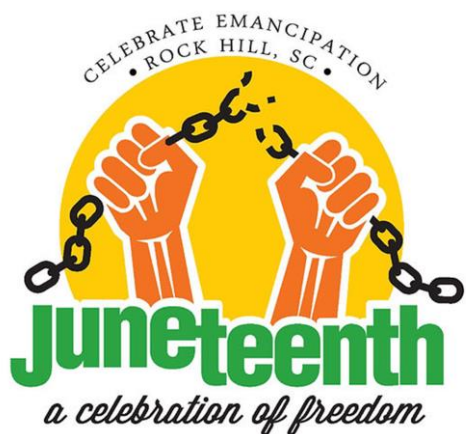
Treasurer: Tom Kosmata –803-546-6322

Secretary: Janice Minshew–772-834-1234

Member at Large: Gretchen Boyd – 828-859-6643

## A New Year and New Leadership

The Annual Congregational Meeting and Picnic at Tryon's Harmon Field provided fellowship, singing, and some pretty great food! We also welcomed new Board members, voted on business matters, and enjoyed Sally Beth Shore's last official service with us. Thanks, Sally Beth, for your insight and inspiration.



## **“Just Two Lifetimes”** —Don Greeson

At the Harmon Field service, Sally MacMillan reminded us that our newest federal holiday, Juneteenth, commemorates the end of slavery in America exactly 158 years ago. Hearing this, my mind drifted to my own great-grandfather, who was born in the same year that Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, and who died in 1949 at age 86. It occurred to me that, even if we don't count the 2 ½ years that passed before the last slaves were freed, slavery in America was legal just “two lifetimes” ago. Was it really that recent? It was, yet still we struggle to find closure to this horrendous period in our history, with some who simply ignore it. More than half of the states have now adopted Juneteenth as a paid holiday for government workers. Sadly, South Carolina is not one of them.

The topic of abolition is both historically and geographically close to home. For example, the Clemson University campus was built on the site of the plantation owned by John C. Calhoun, who was a vocal supporter of “states’ rights” and Vice President under both John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson. But amazingly, Calhoun was a Unitarian who believed that a sudden emancipation of slaves would create chaos and hardship for both Blacks and Whites in the South, (as if slaves didn't already have hardships!)

Beginning in 1831, prominent abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison argued in his newspaper *The Liberator* *against* a gradual cessation of slavery and insisted that emancipation be immediate, which created clear factions with opposing views on the issue. But there was yet a third perspective held by many, that slavery as an institution was morally wrong but had become a political argument mired in extremism. Slavery was legal, after all, and fighting against it meant opposing the government. So divisive was the issue that fledgling Unitarian congregations in the South, with members arguing on both sides, all but disappeared.

By the 1840s, both Unitarian and Universalist denominations held similar views and began crusades to end slavery. And of course, it took a presidential proclamation two decades later and a brutal civil war to finally settle the issue. *Sixteen* decades after the Thirteenth Amendment was passed, and among the Confederate flags that still fly in Calhoun's home state (and others), most Americans are beginning to understand the significance of emancipation and its announcement in Texas (which still had a Confederate government in place) on June 19, 1865. And to make sure the message got through to local officials, that announcement was delivered with the backing of 2000 US Army troops sent to Galveston.



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