



# 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 August

**July 30 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**

*Reverend Jim McKinley*

**Aug. 6 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**

*Reverend Ernie Mills*

**Aug. 12 – Perseid Meteor Shower Peak**

**Aug. 20 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**

*Reverend Ernie Mills*

*UUFCF is located only a few miles from the boundary line separating the Carolinas. First surveyed in 1772, this marker was placed in 1813 after a compromise to settle a boundary line dispute between the states. It is near the site of "The Blockhouse," which is now associated with the Steeplechase, but has a dark history. If you have a minute, it's worth reading about it at:*

<https://www.stoppingpoints.com/north-carolina/sights.cgi?marker=The+Block+House&cnty=Polk>



*Sunday, July 30, 2023, at 10:30 -- Rev. Jim McKinley*

## A Religious Perspective to Life and Love

"I think of religion as a word of orientation. I don't think of it as a boxed set of beliefs. And Unitarian Universalism is the religious tradition and community that best orients and frames my life journey and spiritual practice. I'll introduce a simple organizing understanding I use to give it more form and help guide me on my way. My hopes are that it might also speak to you."

*Jim in contemplation*



*Note: This service was originally planned for July 16, but was rescheduled for August due to Ernie's absence.*

*Sunday, August 6, 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 fishhook, 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.

*Sunday, August 20, 2023, at 10:30 – Rev. Ernie Mills*

## The God Problem

As Unitarian Universalists, we accept a diversity of beliefs when it comes to God (or you may prefer, god, gods, goddess, goddesses) and we even accept unbelief, that is, atheism. In this reflection, we will explore the "god" idea and its many and varied implications.



## The Reverend Jim McKinley

*We asked Jim to share a little about himself, and we're glad we did! Here's what he had to say.*

I moved to Hendersonville almost 26 years ago. I was married then and my daughter, Hannah, was about to turn 3. We were looking for a "town to be at home in" that needed a UU minister. We found our town here "in these Blue Ridge Mountains" where "it's great to be alive" as Ernie says. (Hannah's mom is from West Asheville and her parents, Hannah's grandparents, are from western NC.) When I retired 4 years ago after serving 22 years as the first full-time minister of the UU Fellowship of Hendersonville, I stayed put. This is my home. Before my career in ministry, I was a conservation biologist and the Florida Director of Protection Planning and Stewardship for The Nature Conservancy. So along with my M.DIV degree, I have a Master's degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. I enjoy being retired. My interests now include more my friendships, relationships, personal growth, reading, reflection and occasional writing. I am working on Spanish and guitar and getting regular exercise. And yes, I have taken up Pickleball in the last year. My bigger adventure, which my body and health are allowing me to pursue and aspire to for the moment, is paddle board surfing and traveling (mostly to affordable places in Central America) to find consistent older-person-friendly surf. I look forward to coming to the Whimsical World Gallery and being together with you.



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### *From the desk of* Alisa Mosley



HAPPY NEW YEAR! You may think my calendar is out of whack with this statement but it's not. We're starting our new Fellowship year and want everyone to know that we need your input to make it a good one.

As your new board begins its work our first order of business is to thank Barbara Moffit and Becky Kraai for their contributions as they step off of the board. Barbara brought a calm, steady leadership to the fellowship that helped us through Covid and the change in ministers. She did an excellent job of keeping the board focused and on task and she will definitely be missed in that role.

Becky was, and still is, the can-do person for whatever needs to be done. She is a mover and shaker that makes things happen. While she will no longer be serving on the Board she will continue to be active in the Fellowship and we are certainly grateful for that.

Gretchen Boyd and Christine Mariotti will continue to serve along with two new Board members, Janice Minshew and Tom Kosmata. We greatly appreciate Gretchen and Christine's willingness to serve another term and offer their talents to the Fellowship. A special thanks goes to Gretchen for the wonderful coffee hour after each service!

During Sally Beth Shore's last service and our Annual Meeting, she facilitated a mini strategic planning session that generated a lot of good comments. We will be paying attention to those comments as we move forward during the year to help the Fellowship meet your needs. As things come to mind that you would like the Board to know or you have ideas to improve the Fellowship, please do not hesitate to call me at 803-603-9300 or email me at [alisamosley@gmail.com](mailto:alisamosley@gmail.com) to share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions.

One last shout-out that I have to give is to Don Greeson. Don is no longer serving on the Board but continues to manage our newsletter and email communications. One of the consistent comments we get is regarding the quality of the newsletter. He does an excellent job with the content and keeping everyone on schedule. Thank you, Don!

And, thank you to everyone for your participation in the Fellowship. I invite you to call any of the Board of Trustees with your questions or comments. Each of us can make a contribution to keep our group strong and unique!

Again, Happy New Year!

*Alisa*

#### 2023 UUFCF Board Members

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

