



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 November

Nov 2 – All Souls Day
Nov 2 – Day of the Dead
Nov 5 – UUFCF Service at 10:30
(Remember, Daylight Savings Time Ends)
Nov 11 – Veterans Day
Nov 17 – World Peace Day
Nov 19 --UUFCF Service at 10:30
Nov 23 –Thanksgiving
Nov 24 – Black Friday

Sunday, November 5, 2023 – Rev. Ernie Mills

What a Scallop Can Teach Us about Being Human

Scallops have many eyes but they don't really see; they simply react. In the human world, we call this reactionary behavior prejudice. In an ideal human world, the Executive Function of the brain operates to control this kind of behavior, but unfortunately this function is not always developed (through education) or is simply not there. It is my belief that Buddha, Jesus, Lao Tze and others tried their best to "ignite" the Executive Function so we humans would not behave like scallops.



Sunday, November 19, 2023 -- Rev. Ernie Mills

The Myth of Redemption

Imagine, the entire history of the Western world hinging on the bite of a forbidden fruit, an apple (it really was not an apple). That bite brought about what theologians termed the "Fall" (that concept is not found in the Biblical story). Humanity thus, according to the myth, "fell" into bondage and was in need of redemption. The

first attempt at redemption resulted in the giving of the Torah (Law). When that failed, it seemed that the only path was through blood and the sacrifice of a human victim, i.e., Jesus. This has been the prime myth of the West for ages and is still in force today. Are there alternatives? Yes!

2023 UUFCF Board Members

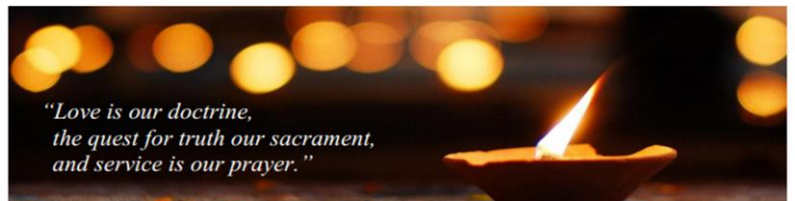
Chair: Alisa Mosley –803-603-9300

Vice Chair: Christine Mariotti – 828-440-1277

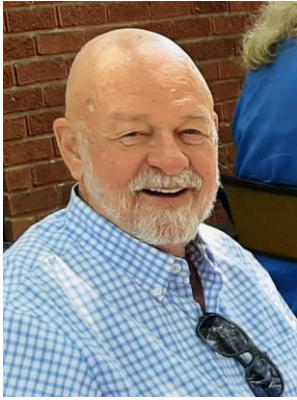
Treasurer: Tom Kosmata –803-546-6322

Secretary: Janice Minshew--772-834-1234

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



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



Member Profile: Jim Minshew

“A community of love” is how Jim Minshew describes Port Solarno, Florida’s St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, where he was rector for 23 years. It was his favorite job, much more fun than his role as Marine, accountant or embalmer. (You read that correctly... Jim paid for college working at a funeral home!)

But first things first. Born in Hartford, Alabama, Jim moved to the thriving metropolis of Panama City, Florida when he was 10. There he attended religious services in Southern Methodist, Southern Baptist, and occasionally Presbyterian churches. (“Not United Methodist,” he clarifies, referring to the Southern denomination’s very conservative beliefs.) After graduating from High School, he attended Florida State and majored in Accounting. To pay for college, he drove an ambulance, and yes, sometimes embalmed bodies. Beginning in 1965, Jim served in the Marine Corps for two years, training at Parris Island, SC before being stationed in Santa Anna, CA. Jim states matter-of-factly that, from 1961 until 1972, he was “unchurched.”

But he was married, the first time for nine years, and became a dad to his daughter Joann. A second marriage, this time for 18 years, gave him three more daughters, Allison, Alicia and Amy. They lived in Ft. Lauderdale where he “made more money for rich people” as an accountant. Ironically, he attended Saint Benedict’s Episcopal Church in nearby Plantation, Florida, where Maria Lund and her mother were members.

In 1980, Jim decided to embrace theology and the Episcopal Church as a career, and went to seminary at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN, where he lived for three years. Upon graduation, he served as an assistant clergyman at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Miami for two years, and finally became rector at St. Luke’s for the next quarter century. During his tenure there, he met and married Janice, and they recently celebrated their 20th anniversary. Also during that time he received his pilot’s license and continues to pursue his passion for flying, but admits that at age 80, he prefers to have an instructor beside him in the cockpit.



Jim marries his youngest daughter Amy on a south Florida beach in 2022

And now *we* have him! Jim retired from the ministry in 2008, and nine years later he and Janice moved to Forest City. Not one to sit still, Jim travels a great deal, to different states to visit his daughters and to Oshkosh, Wisconsin’s annual “AirVenture,” the world’s largest aviation convention. Most recently, he chauffeured adoptable pets to Humane Societies around the country. In fact, he’s headed to Minneapolis this month to deliver several cats. (Who says you can’t herd cats!?)

Pilot, father, Father (get it?) accountant, husband, chef, volunteer, humanitarian and cat herder, we’re proud to count Jim Minshew as a friend and member of UUFCF.



Robin Edgar poses with her “adopted daughter” Riziki Mastocki (right) who stopped by the Fellowship on October 29 to introduce her younger sister Silvie, who has just arrived from Gola, DRC. Riziki is now a US citizen, and thanks in part to Robin’s efforts (and after a lengthy bureaucratic process,) her family has now settled in Charlotte. Both Riziki and Silvie personally thanked the congregation for its involvement and financial support in helping to bring Silvie to the U.S.