



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, 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 Service at 10:30		4 Men's Group at 10:00 <i>Mardi Gras</i>				8 International Women's Day
9 Daylight Savings			12 Women's Group at 2:00			
16 Service at 10:30 (New Members!)	17 St Patrick's Day		19 Spring Begins			
23 (No Service)						
30 Service at 10:30						



Sunday, March 2, 2025 – Rev. Ernie Mills

"MY AUTUMN OF 1980"



"One autumn afternoon in September 1980 I ended up in the emergency room of Pardee Hospital in Hendersonville, NC. That afternoon I was admitted to the psychiatric ward of the hospital and later diagnosed by a psychiatrist as suffering from an acute episode of schizophrenia. I spent two nights in the hospital and was released under the care of the staff at, what was then, Trend Mental Health. The road to healing was difficult and there were relapses. No one outside of my immediate family knows about this episode but after recently listening to Ted Talk I am inspired to share it in the hope that it might inspire others to share theirs."

"In January of 1981 I entered seminary at Duke Divinity School. The academic demands of graduate school presented me with tremendous challenges. Due to the medications I was taking at times it made it difficult to focus on reading assignments and daily lectures during class times. Fortunately, I came into contact with Professor Richard Goodling, a pastoral psychologist who agreed to meet with me in private sessions. Doctor Goodling listened with patience and understanding. One thing he said that is etched on my memory: *Don't ever forget what happened to you; mine it for the treasure it holds*"

Sunday, March 16, 2025 – Rev. Ernie Mills

"MY SPRING OF 1981"



► *Special Fifth Sunday Service!*

Sunday, March 30, 2025 – Becky Kraai and Ian Read

“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.”

Who better to say this than Maya Angelou who kept her tragic story inside for many years but then shared it in her best-selling book,

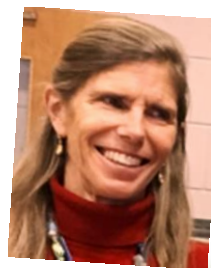
“Why the Caged Bird Sings.” We don’t have stories as much as we ARE stories.

We humans have been telling stories for as long

as we have existed. Our own Becky Kraai and Ian Read will share their stories with us.

Becky is a UU convert, but Ian is a “lifer.” Lots to look forward to!

Becky and Ian Share Their Stories



“The Grand Experiment” (or as Elvis sang in 1961, “It’s Now or Never!”)

Have you wondered how the Unitarians and the Universalists got together? Here’s a very brief history lesson.

Universalism, a populist movement, swept westward with the great American migration of the 19th century, while Unitarians, except in a few western outposts, remained largely in New England. Yet for more than a century they had shared many of the same ministers and views. Not until 1953, after both denominations had declined in population after two world wars and a depression, did the two consider merging. At first, they considered calling the newly formed organization “The United Liberal Church,” but there were concerns (fears?) that each group’s traditions would be lost in such a generic name. (In true UU fashion, they debated the name for the next eight years!)

When the American Unitarian Association and the Universalist Church of America finally merged on May 12, 1961, a grand total of 141,685 members of 895 congregations became one. America’s leading religious Journal at the time, *The Christian Century*, called it, “the most thorough sounding of the views of a religious people in modern times!” An estimated 2000 UUs gathered in Boston’s Symphony Hall for a “Service of Celebration.” Two pulpits were used: that of the Oxford Church in which Universalist theologian Hosea Ballou had been ordained, and that of the Federal Street Church from which the Unitarian William Ellery Channing had preached. The principal address was; “A New World Faith: The Grand Experiment.”

So, our Grand Experiment is really not that old. In May of 1961, Americans watched “Bonanza” on TV, Ben E. King sang “Stand By Me” on the radio, and President Kennedy announced his goal of putting a man on the moon before the end of the decade. His goal was a success, and so too was ours.



New Member Sunday is March 16!

And there’s still time to let Alisa know if you’re interested in becoming an official member of the Fellowship. After the service, we’ll celebrate by having lunch at Iron Key Brewery, located in Columbus, NC at 135 Locust Street.

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



Questions, Comments, or Ideas? Feel free to contact any of our 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: Don Greeson—828-290-3627

Minister: Ernie Mills – 828-553-7418.