



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



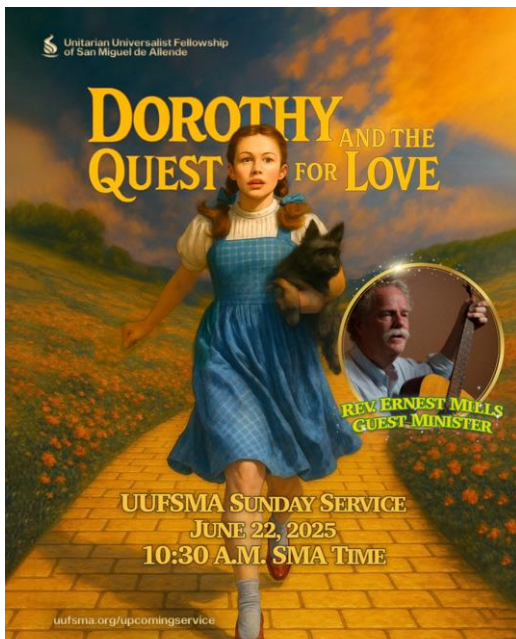
Coon Dog Day in Saluda

Happening in July, 2025

- July 1 – UUFCF Fiscal Year Begins
- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 6 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**
- July 7 – Men's Discussion Group
- July 9 – Women's Group
- July 10 – Buck Moon (full)
- July 12 – Saluda's Coon Dog Day
- July 20 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**



61st Annual Columbus July 4 Festival
Fireworks begin at 9:45



Returning from San Miguel, Sunday, July 6, 2025 – Ernie Mills

The Fascinating Religion of **MEXICO**



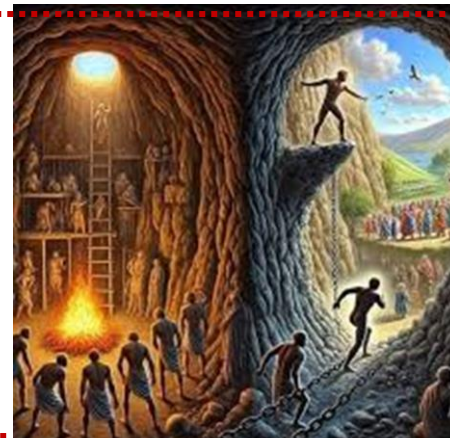
When the Spanish came to what is now Mexico in the 1500's, they brought their Catholic religion with them. They took stones from the pyramids built by the ancient Olmecs, Mayans, Aztecs to build the many Catholic churches. Yet it was more than just stones. Those ancient stones represent the religion of the indigenous people that was absorbed and incorporated into Catholicism as it is experienced by the Mexican people. I'll show a few images of winged saints, surrounded by giant serpents and a "Jesus" covered in blood. Of course, at the center of both religions is human sacrifice.

(Left: San Miguel de Allende UUs welcome Ernie with great fanfare.)

Sunday, July 20, 2025 – Ernie Mills

The Myth of the Cave

Through his Myth of the Cave, the ancient Greek philosopher Plato invites us to come out of our caves and explore the world outside. The cave, in this case, would represent the closed or imprisoned mind that cannot see beyond what appears. The English Romantic poet, William Blake, wrote, "If the doors of perception were cleansed, everything would appear to man as it is: infinite." Let's find ways to come out of the caves of our own making.



UUFCF Board of Trustees

Chair: Alisa Mosley –803-603-9300

Vice Chair: Don Greeson –828-290-3627

Member at Large: Christine Mariotti – 828-440-1277

Treasurer: Tom Kosmata –803-546-6322

Secretary: Janice Minshew–772-834-1234

Minister: Ernie Mills – 828-553-7418

On our birthday, a brief look back

This year, the Fellowship is celebrating its 35th birthday. A lot can happen in more than three decades, but we don't have to travel that far back in time to see major changes.

The **July, 2020** Nuuusletter offers a glimpse of what was happening just five years ago. Robin Edgar was stepping down as President of the Board, and Barbara Moffitt was stepping up. Our minister Lyndon Harris announced his upcoming sermon titled, "Seeking Sanity in Crazy Times." Robin reminded us in a farewell letter that during the previous twelve months, the Fellowship had changed its name from *Thermal Belt UU Fellowship* to *UU Fellowship of the Carolina Foothills* and began meeting at the Sunnysdale log cabin. We had also sponsored Community Coffee Houses and a successful Valentine's Dance with a live band. But then the wheels came off the tracks when Covid 19 hit, so by that summer, services were being held via Zoom.



But we hung together and made it through the pandemic. By **July, 2021** we were daring to meet in public again, and on the Fourth we enjoyed a Pot Luck Picnic at the home of Beth Kinstler. Minutes from the Annual Meeting were published, summarizing the congregation's consensus that we would be better off continuing to rent space than investing in a permanent building, which would allow us the finances to give back to the community. The realization that Sunnysdale had decided to substantially increase our rent was incentive to investigate new meeting places, and that month we gathered at the Landrum Depot as a trial location.

The **July, 2022** issue reported on the success of our Annual Meeting which took place at Harmon Field (in the covered shelter that was swept away by Hurricane Helene.) Barbara Moffitt agreed to a third term as President, and a new member named Alisa Mosley volunteered to be secretary. That month, we would enjoy an address by visiting minister Sally Beth Shore, and Lyndon announced that he and his wife Maria were exploring the possibility of moving to Charleston. Though not as fancy as the Landrum Depot, everyone seemed happy when we chose the Whimsical World Gallery to be our new home.



Like the year before, the **July, 2023** Nuuusletter addressed the recent Annual Meeting held at Harmon Field, which included the last sermon by Sally Beth Shore, who was moving to the Raleigh area to be near her aging parents. Alisa Mosley was voted in as the new Board President. Two July sermons would be presented by Ernie Mills, who was retiring from the UU Church of Transylvania in Brevard and a Fifth Sunday Service by the recently retired minister of the Hendersonville UU Fellowship, Jim McKinley. But it was Ernie who became our permanent minister.

By **July, 2024**, the newly formed Men's Discussion Group was meeting once a month at Derek Harrison's house. Derek also led a service that month while Ernie was away. New visitors from both NC and SC discovered our little congregation. Annie was consistently at a donated electric piano for hymn accompaniment; Ernie would entertain us with his guitar, as would Becky and Derek. Improvements were made with the sound system and projector. No one could have predicted that in just two months, the biggest hurricane in the area's history would impact the community. But we soldier on.



Men's Discussion Group

meets the first Monday of each month at 11:00 in the Polk Co. Public Library at 1289 W. Mills Street, Columbus, NC



Women's Discussion Group

meets the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 in Cardinal Coffee in Landrum at 114 E. Rutherford Street

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

