



THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP *of the Carolina Foothills*

Meeting the 1st Sunday of this month at the Landrum Depot
and the 3rd Sunday at the Whimsical World Gallery, 116 Jones St in Landrum, SC
Mailing Address: UUFCF, P. O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782



Groundhogs Tater & Yam will be at Chimney Rock's Groundhog Day Celebration

Happening in February

- Feb 2 – Groundhog Day
- Feb 4 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**
(at the Landrum Depot!)
Followed by Potluck Lunch
- Feb 11 – Superbowl Sunday
- Feb 13 – Mardi Gras
- Feb 14 – Valentine's Day
- Feb 18 – UUFCF Service at 10:30**
(at the Gallery)
- Feb 19 – Presidents Day



Landrum Depot
211 S. Hwy 562 (parallel to Hwy 176)

Sunday, February 4, 2024 – Reverend Ernie Mills

Why I got my tongue stuck in a Coke bottle

When I turned six, my parents threw a party and my classmates were invited. It was all fun until I tried to pull off a victory in a weird competition —making popping sounds by using a coke bottle. You'll have to attend the service on February 4 if you want to hear the rest of the story. I'm using this incident as a launching pad to explore a theory (maybe law?) put forth by Will Storr in his new book, *The Status Game*. The book "examines our deep-rooted desire for social status and how it influences our behavior."



Sunday, February 18, 2024 – Reverend Ernie Mills

In Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," Huck is committing a grave sin by helping a runaway slave, Jim, to escape. Twain's story is fictional but it is not a fiction that African Americans were considered less human and did not share the same emotions as Caucasians. The turning point in the story is when Huck and Jim are floating down the Mississippi river on a homemade raft. It's night and Huck overhears Jim crying for his family. Huck then realizes that Jim has a heart and is human. And although Huck believes he is breaking a law of God he experiences a life-changing, existential crisis and says to himself, "Alright I'll go to hell."

Unitarian Universalists come from a long line of "Huck Finns." They are those who have stood up against institutions of power and authority, whether religious, political or even "God" (or gods made in human images.) We'll take a brief look at this history and what it means to "go to hell" for the cause of justice.

PROFILE: Chris and Sally MacMillan

Recently we learned that Sally MacMillan is a lifelong UU, somewhat of an anomaly in the South. But as it turns out, Chris has been one as well, at least since he was a teenager. But that's not where the couple's story begins.

Chris had been attending college when his father, a psychiatrist, suddenly passed away and Chris realized he was needed back at home in Winston Salem. In 1976 he moved to Beaufort, SC where he worked as a photographer and then was hired to manage a camera store on Hilton Head, SC. Sally was born in Vermont, raised in Lexington, Massachusetts and moved with her parents to Hilton Head in 1971. It was on the island, while working at both a sign shop and at an arts and crafts store, that she met Chris at that camera store just up the street.



Chris' grandfather was a Baptist minister, but his father took Chris to different churches in his search for a spiritual home. Near the end of his life, Dad asked his son if he'd found what he was looking for, and Chris confessed he liked the food, the folk music and the car washes that the UU youth group held to raise funds. Meanwhile, Sally never had a thought about finding a different church... she is cousin to Dana McLean Greeley: Harvard graduate, famous President of the UUA, professor at the Meadville Lombard Theological School, and President of the International Association for Religious Freedom. (He was also a descendent of Horace Greeley, the nineteenth century newspaper publisher and presidential candidate.) Sally also left school after two years at Pennsylvania's Arcadia University and moved to Cambridge, Mass where she took classes and worked at Tufts University. (During this time, Sally also attended James Taylor's very first concert, and years later met him in person at a small concert in Asheville, organized to thank volunteers for their work on the Obama campaign.)

When Chris and Sally started living together in the late seventies on Hilton Head, there was no UU church. So Sally joined her parents in their effort to start a UU group and was a charter member of the first fellowship there. It grew exponentially and is still there today (now located just off the island in Bluffton.) Chris left the camera shop for a career in sales, first with a plumbing supply company and eventually with Sally to start their own company. The couple represented medical products and traveled all over the country to businesses and conventions in a 19-foot van, eventually camping in all 48 contiguous states. In addition to their home in Hilton Head, they bought Sally's parents' house on the coast of Maine, where they vacationed for 22 years. But when it was time to retire, they sold both homes and moved to an Audubon community near Brevard, NC named Sherwood Forest. Guess what? Brevard didn't have a UU fellowship, so once again Sally went to work and began organizing one, first meeting in a home, then in a community center, then in a Brevard College classroom, then in a lecture hall and finally in the school's auditorium. It was at Brevard College that the school's Methodist chaplain, Ernie Mills, peeked in to see what was happening and met the MacMillans. And it was Ernie who became the new UU fellowship's first full time minister.

So the MacMillans have been more than weekend UUs. Sally, in particular, has been an organizing force for the denomination, and is also active in politics. Chris now has time to enjoy music and reading. After brief stints of residing in Asheville, a different home in Brevard, and finally landing in Columbus, NC, they could support any number of UU Fellowships. But they've chosen ours, and we are lucky to have them!

Questions, Comments, or Ideas?

Contact any of our UUFCA Board Members

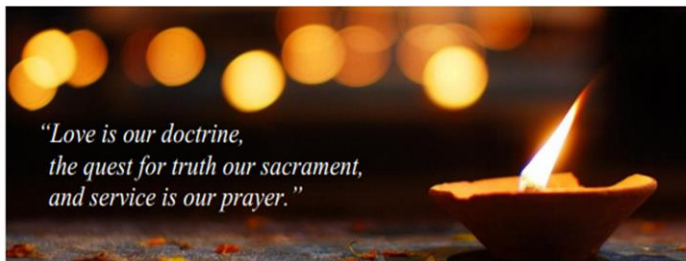
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*"Love is our doctrine,
the quest for truth our sacrament,
and service is our prayer."*