



THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

of the Carolina Foothills' May, 2024 Newsletter

Meeting at the Whimsical World Gallery, 116 Jones St. Landrum, SC • Mailing Address: UUFCF, P.O.Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782



Condos atop White Oak Mountain, Columbus, NC

Happening This Month:

- May 4 – Kentucky Derby
- May 5 – Service at 10:30**
- May 12 – Mother's Day
- May 18 – Armed Forces Day
- May 19 – Service at 10:30**
- May 27 – Memorial Day



White Oak Mountain's Shunkawauken Falls

Sunday, May 5 – Rev. Ernie Mills

The Dignity of Human Life

“Why?” asked Ling Yutang, “If there was no God, people would not do good and the world would go topsy-turvy.”
 “Why?” answered his Confucian friend. “We should lead a decent human life simply because we are decent human beings.”
 This quote from Ling Yutang’s book, *“The Importance of Living”* highlights the importance of living with a sense of dignity and self-respect. Our first UU principle invites us to affirm and promote this very ideal. We will explore this principle and how it contrasts with the doctrine of original sin.



Sunday, May 19 – Rev. Ernie Mills

The Power of Music

Modern neurological research into the art of music has revealed the extent of its power, way beyond what was known in the past. One thing we have learned is that music is much more than just entertainment; it has medicinal qualities that we have just begun to understand. Music has healing powers and it is the highest expression of the human spirit. In this reflection we will sing as much, if not more, than I talk.



Men's Group Meets May 7 at 10:00 am
 at the home of Derek Harrison, 56 Whitney Avenue in Tryon.
 (Bring a folding chair if you have one.)

*Solving the world's biggest problems since March, 2024
 Come join us!*

Walnut Creek Preserve
Saturday, May 18 at 10:30 am

**Generations
Against
Single Use
Plastic**
with Robin Edgar



Robin Edgar, who helped to start a new community organization called *Generations Against Single-Use Plastic* (G.A.S.P.) in Polk County, will be sharing “Solutions to Single Plastic Pollution” at the Conserving Carolina speaker’s series at the Walnut Creek Preserve on Saturday, May 18 from 10:30 to noon. The organization provides keys to reducing plastic pollution by providing research for alternative products and tools for long-term reduction of plastics in our environment. At this event, attendees will learn about plastic pollution and its effects on plant and animal life, the myths about current recycling programs, and how to make a difference in our community with solutions to tackling single-use plastic pollution, one bottle at a time.

Reminders and Updates

- Treasurer Tom Kosmata needs your pledge form for next year (which starts July 1) to create a new budget by May 19. The forms are available on the reception table at the Whimsical World Gallery or as an attachment in UUFCF email updates. Our busy Board thanks you in advance!
- Gretchen Boyd is always looking for volunteers for those simple Sunday assignments. There are sign-up sheets at each service for Greeters, Chalice Lighters, and Hospitality Providers. If you’ve been meaning to sign up or can contribute a small but meaningful act for the Fellowship, give her a call at 828-859-6643.
- Robin reports that her Ukrainian contact has successfully secured a truck to deliver supplies to front-line soldiers thanks in part to our donations. Any money collected now will go straight to the pastor who continues to purchase bulletproof vests and needed hardware for the troops. Thanks for your help!
- **CALLING ALL NEW MEMBER CANDIDATES!** The Board is planning the new member recognition and needs to know if you’re ready to join our eclectic mix of devotees! Music, insight, community, bad singing (by some of us) and diversity of beliefs can benefit from your participation (and may benefit you!) Think of our fellowship as a progressive oasis in a desert of conservative thought, but with snacks! Call Board Chair Alisa Mosley at 803-603-9300.
- Need a Name Badge? If so, contact Tom Kosmata at tkosmata@aol.com

The First of Seven

Ernie’s sermon for May 5 addresses the subject of Dignity, and reminds us that “The inherent worth and dignity of every person” is the first of the Unitarian Universalism’s “Seven Principles.” It’s worth remembering that our list of principles is not like the ten commandments carved on stone tablets by “the finger of God,” or like the “eight dynamics” composed for a book written by L. Ron Hubbard, founder of the Church of Scientology. Our seven principles are a collection of ideals based on the history of human experience, wisdom from world religions and lessons from reason and science. They are ideals held by thinking, rational people... like you.

The Seven UU Principles

1. *The inherent worth and dignity of every person*
2. *Justice, equity and compassion in human relations*
3. *Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth*
4. *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning*
5. *The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process*
6. *The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all*
7. *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part*

UUFCF Board Members

Chair: Alisa Mosley –803-603-9300
Vice Chair: Christine Mariotti – 828-440-1277
Member at Large: Gretchen Boyd – 828-859-6643

Treasurer: Tom Kosmata –803-546-6322
Secretary: Janice Minshew--772-834-1234
Minister: Ernie Mills – 828-553-7418: