



# *Thermal Belt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship News*

*September, 2016*

**Services: 1st & 3rd Sundays 10:30 A. M.**

Location: 835 N. Trade St., Tryon, NC  
Phone: 828-513-0570 Website: TBUUF.org  
Mail Address: P.O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782  
Please follow us on Facebook

## Upcoming Services

*“I Am Still Learning”*

*Reverend Michael Carter*

*September 4th*

Water Communion Homecoming Service



September 4<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Homecoming Service and Water Communion. We will explore the theme of homecoming and what

it means to assist others in finding their way back home as well. Remember all who wander are not lost. Some of us just choose not to return home.

For us as UUs, we gather to affirm and to live our principles, to have fellowship, to nurture one another, and to strengthen each other for the road ahead. At times the road seems rough and meandering. At times it may feel as if we are taking 2 steps forward and 3 steps back. But just try to remember these 4 words that may help to make the journey a little less cumbersome--- I Am Still Learning.

**Please remember to bring water and plan to stay for a short Town Hall Meeting After this service.**

*Why Are We So Afraid*

*Reverend Ernie Mills*

*September 18th*



Susanne Langer said, “The driving force in human minds is fear. ”Fear can be rational or irrational. Political and religious leaders often

use irrational fears as a way to get votes or to keep their flock under tight control. It is rational to be afraid of a mother bear robbed of her cubs but it is irrational to fear a people whose skin is a different color or whose religion is different from ours. Irrational fears are what we call “phobias” and can often lead to paranoia on a mass scale. These kinds of irrational fears breed hatred (which is nothing but fear with another name).

We should periodically ask ourselves “What am I afraid of?” Then reflect on those fears to discover whether they are rational or irrational. “Perfect love casts out fear”. This may be true but then so would it’s opposite: “Perfect fear casts out love”.

## 2016 Future Services

- October 2 Michael Carter  
“Goodbye, Mr. Columbus”
  - October 16 Michael Carter  
“Words”
  - November 6 Michael Carter  
“The Politician”
  - November 20 Michael Carter
  
  - December 4 Ernie Mills
- Special U-Yule Service - Stay Tuned
- December 18 Michael Carter

## 2017 Future Services

- January 1 Marc Mullinax
- January 15 Michael Carter
- February 5 Michael Carter
- February 19 Michael Carter
- March 5 Michael Carter
- March 19 Michael Carter
- April 2 Michael Carter
- April 18 Open
- May 7 Michael Carter
- May 21 Michael Carter
- June 4 Michael Carter
- June 18 Open
- July 2 Michael Carter
- July 16 Michael Carter
- August 7 Open
- August 21 Michael Carter

### Announcement: Friday Morning Coffee & Conversation

**When?** Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00A.M.

**Where?** Open Road Coffee House, 915 W. Mill St.  
Columbus

**What?** Coffee and Conversation

**Why?** This is a fun way to get to know members  
and friends of TBUUF in a casual venue.

For more information call Linda List  
864-457-2292



## *The Subject of Race*

Message from Rev. Michael Carter:

In view of the tragic events of this past summer between law enforcement and men of color in this country, the Rev. Judith Long, the Rev. Jim McKinley, and I believe it is time to have an in-depth conversation about race and racism in our nation. We will not solve the entire of problem, but we can contribute to a sense of looking the problem in the eye and not blinking. This is tough stuff. With that said, we are proposing a series of meetings to address the topic. The dates and times proposed are Tuesday evenings, September 13th, October 11th, and November 29th, from 6-8 pm. If more discussions are needed, more discussions will be made available. This series will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hendersonville, 2021 Kanuga Road, Hendersonville, NC.

Through the use of films and conversation, we will attempt to:

A) Come to an analysis and consensus on a working definition of "Racism."

B) Create a safe space for all to be vulnerable and to speak their minds. Here we will begin to look at our individual growing edges regarding how we contribute to this climate of racism and fear. Remembering our 7th principle, "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part," we recognize that we're all part of the problem and part of the solution.

C) Consider some next steps that we might take as a free religious community and individually to meet the challenge of racism in our daily lives. The goal is to focus on what is "doable" and realistic. We are in this for the long haul.

During times such as these, many of us immediately ask what it is that we can "do" to combat this thing called racism and that is a good thing. Yet we are human beings and not human "doings" and perhaps we can begin to work with our own inner landscapes so as to make the outer work that we do in our community more compassionate, more understanding and more effective. These conversations are open to the public so bring a friend if you are so moved.

Those who wish to attend should contact the UUFH church office at 828-693-3157 or by using the contact form found at <http://uufhnc.org/contact-us/>.