



Thermal Belt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship February 2018

Services at 10:30 a.m. on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at
835 N. Trade St., Tryon, NC
www.TBUUF.org; Like/follow us on Facebook @ TBUUF
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782

Upcoming Services

February 4, 2018

“Finding Buddha Within: A Short Introduction to Buddhism”

Rev. Marc Mullinax

An introductory “Dharma Talk” on Buddhist Basics and how one may experience the power of this great world religion. We’ll touch on relevant historical stories of the Buddha, basic teachings, the roles of karma and enlightenment, and the influence that meditation has in this 21st Century. Buddhist music and a video will be included, and we’ll wrap up with a Question and Answer period and “next steps” for those interested in more information or experiences.

Dr. Marc Mullinax is a Professor of Religion at Mars Hill University and serves as Chair of its Faculty. He holds both a Ph.D. and an M.Div. He remains Baptist in his soul-freedom lovin’ heart, but his mind is at home in progressive spiritual traditions like UU.



February 18, 2018

“The Inner Life of Justice, Equity and Compassion”

Rev. Ernie Mills

Carl Jung, the famous Swiss psychologists who founded "Depth Psychology" says "we cannot give what we do not have". This applies not just to material things but, as Jung stressed, non-material "things" like justice, equity and compassion. Our second principle, like our first, starts with us and within us. We are up against a powerful religious heritage and tradition that seems at times to condemn self-love as sinful and narcissistic, yet how are we to show compassion or justice toward others if we cannot and do not show it to ourselves? We will explore the inner soul scape of our second principle.

Rev. Mills completed a BA in Philosophy from the University of North Carolina at Asheville, a Master of Religious Education from Duke Divinity School, and a Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He previously served as minister to the Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County.



* * *

TBUUF services are held at 10:30 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 835 N. Trade St., Tryon

Coffee, light refreshments and fellowship follow our services.

February volunteers:

Feb. 4: Greeter: Joy Soderquist; Hospitality: Laura & Al Converse

Feb. 18: Greeter: Gen Baydarian; Hospitality volunteer needed

Sign-up sheets to volunteer for hospitality and to greet are on the back table at each service.

* * *

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Donation letters for tax purposes will be available for all donors of record at the service on February 4. If your taxes will be done before that date, please contact me at (828) 859-6643 or boydgrt@aol.com and I will send the information to you. Gretchen Boyd

Mastaki Family Update from Robin Edgar. The Mastaki family continues to fare well here in the United States. Mr. Mastaki has been working at the same company for over two years and continues to send money to pay for food, utilities, and schooling, etc. to Goma to support their two teenaged daughters left in the care of an elder son. Mrs. Mastaki now has a babysitting job to help pay for medical bills here and to save for, along with her husband and daughter, Riziki, the remaining \$1700 in immigration fees to bring the two girls to the U.S. as legal immigrants. With their \$600 savings and a recent \$200 check from TBUUF, they are almost halfway there but this does not include the transportation costs to bring them to the US.

Although the initial paperwork has been approved and everyone is anxious for the next step in the immigration process to happen, it is unfortunately not a good time for the girls to travel to the capitol of Kinshasa. A recent demonstration there, demanding the ouster of long-time President Joseph Kabila who has clung to power for 17 years, resulted in at least five deaths and 17 wounded. The country's Catholic Church had called for demonstrations across the

country and police used both live ammunition and tear gas to scatter anti-government protesters who took to the streets following church services.

These protests that are taking place across the country, including Goma where the Mastaki family lives, have emboldened numerous armed rebel groups in the country's interior. This has sparked fears that the country, rich in mineral resources, could slide back into a vicious civil war that left millions dead in the 1990s, primarily from hunger and disease.

Thankfully, our fellowship continues to generously support the Mastaki family's efforts to bring their daughters safely here. There are two ways in which you can help. As mentioned in our last meeting, I will be collecting spring and summer clothing, shoes, purses, etc. to bring to the P3 Consignments store in Landrum this February. Phil and Gretchen have also arranged a TBUUA Mastaki Family Fund to make donations through our fellowship tax deductible. If you have any further questions, please call 864-457-7557 or email me at 2robinedgar@gmail.com.

