



Thermal Belt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship May 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

May 6, 2018

“What is your faith and why do you have it?”

The Rev. Dr. Michael Doty (retired)

Human beings learn faith and spirituality in a context. Just as a child grows to adulthood through a series of observable and measurable stages of cognitive development, every human being also goes through stages of faith and spiritual development. Both cognitive development and faith/spiritual development are influenced by the context (or environment) in which one is conceived, born, raised, and grows through their adulthood. The presentation will teach how each human being is imprinted and influenced by their life context as he or she grows and develops a unique personality and a distinctive understanding of their relationship to the Divine and to other human beings.

The Rev. Dr. Michael Doty is a retired priest in the Episcopal Church who lives in Landrum, SC. He has been an artist from a young age and holds undergraduate degrees in fine art, theater, and education, all with honors. His graduate and post-graduate degrees are from the University of the South where his studies focused on faith and spiritual development, and contextual ministry. As a priest, pastor, diocesan



leader, and consultant his focus was always on understanding the context in which churches were established and how the unique culture within each one created a positive or negative effectiveness within their respective communities. Doty has written several academic papers addressing the issues of how faith and spiritual development influence church cultures, as well as books on local church histories. He has presented papers at sessions of the Appalachian Studies Conference at Virginia Tech and East Tennessee State University, and he is a published essayist and newspaper columnist. In his retirement he has taken up woodworking once again, though he continues to publish his essays in a personal blog at <https://michaelandtheleastofofthese.blogspot.com/>. As a

pastor his personal motto was, “Pastoral care trumps everything else,” - a reflection of his belief that every genuine faith practice is rooted in personal relationships.

May 20, 2018

“The Wonder in Searching”

Rev. Ernie Mills

Our Fourth UU Principle, “a free and responsible search for truth and meaning,” opens the door to the wonder and mystery of life. Searching insures that our lives remain dynamic and never stagnant. It keeps us on the move, keeps the juices flowing, and makes space for adventure and exploration. We will re-search and ex-plore the challenges inherent in this 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.



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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.

May volunteers:

May 6: Greeter: Sheila Nungesser; Hospitality: Gretchen Boyd

May 20: Greeter: Bob and Nan Covert; Hospitality volunteer(s) needed

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

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Letter from Ministerial Consultant Rev. Ernie Mills

So, why are you a UU? I’m excited to serve as your ministerial consultant for the next few months. I hope we can work together as a team/family to put together a vision for Thermal Belt UU and, just as importantly, enjoy one another’s company.

A meaningful vision begins with a fundamental question: ***Why are you a UU?*** We all have our own story to share as to how we found our way into the Unitarian Universalist fold. (A rare few of those in the South were born that way). Most Southerners came (and are coming) to UU via some variety of Protestant brand of religion, a few from the Catholic brand and a few from no

religion at all. But they are coming. UU is growing faster in the South than anywhere else in the States.

But why are you here? How did you get here? Why have you stayed? What does-or has UU offered you?

I'm here mainly because of one thing: freedom. I love the freedom to think and think out loud. I love the freedom to share my story, my truth, my doubts, my struggles, joys, fears and whatever, without the fear of being judged or morally raked over the coals. There's a lot more I could add as to why I'm here but I would love to hear your story.

Since we won't have a lot of time to spend together perhaps you could send me an email version of your story. (e6butterfly@gmail.com)

Looking and listening forward to getting to know you all.

May the Force be with you. Ernest.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TBUUF is co-sponsoring a presentation on Buddhism led by our friend Rev. Marc Mullinax at the Tryon Congregational Church (210 Melrose Ave.) on Wednesday, May 30, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. (a light meal will be provided.) Marc led a service on the subject for us, but it was an icy/snowy day and many of you were not able to attend. This will have a different format since it will not be a Sunday service, but a Wednesday night presentation.

TBUUF and the Thermal Belt Friendship Council are co-sponsoring a reading of the play "The Best of Enemies" at the Tryon Fine Arts Center on Tuesday evening May 15 at 7:00 p.m. Robin Edgar is the director and producer.

Based on the unlikely friendship of a white Ku Klux Klan leader, C.P. Ellis, and an African-American civil rights activist, Ann Atwater, from Durham, N.C., *The Best of Enemies* tells the true story of friendship and community that developed during the effort to desegregate Durham schools. Written by Mark St Germain, the play is based on the best-selling book of the same name by Osha Gray Davidson.

Tickets are available online at the Tryon Fine Arts Center website and at the box office. The number of seats is limited so get your tickets now! Click link below:

<https://tryonarts.org/best-of-enemies/>

There will be an election for Board members in June. If you or someone you know would be willing to serve, please let an officer know.

TBUUF Board Members 2017-2018: Phil Nungesser, Co-President; Nan Covert, Co-President; Ninalee Kinney, Vice President; Gretchen Boyd, Treasurer; Penny Kessler, Secretary; Barbara Moffitt, at large member.

TBUUF Reads: Here are some books you may wish to take a look at. The first two suggestions are from Ernie Mills. Your suggestions are welcome as well.

Modern Man In Search of a Soul by Carl Jung. From Goodreads: "Considered by many to be one of the most important books in the field of psychology, *Modern Man in Search of a Soul* is a comprehensive introduction to the thought of Carl Gustav Jung. In this book, Jung examines some of the most contested and crucial areas in the field of analytical psychology, including dream analysis, the primitive unconscious, and the relationship between psychology and religion. Additionally, Jung looks at the differences between his theories and those of Sigmund Freud, providing a valuable basis for anyone interested in the fundamentals of psychoanalysis."

On Becoming a Person by Carl Rogers. From Goodreads: "The late Carl Rogers, founder of the humanistic psychology movement, revolutionized psychotherapy with his concept of "client-centered therapy." His influence has spanned decades, but that influence has become so much a part of mainstream psychology that the ingenious nature of his work has almost been forgotten."

Martin & Malcolm & America by James H. Cone. Cone contrasts the ideological visions of these two leaders during the civil rights movement, including how each man saw the future of blacks in America -- "I have a dream" versus "I see a nightmare".

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander

Knocking on Heaven's Door: The Path to a Better Way of Death by Katy Butler
In this visionary memoir, based on a groundbreaking New York Times Magazine story, award-winning journalist Katy Butler ponders her parents' desires for "Good Deaths" and the forces within medicine that prevent that from happening.

Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult

When a newborn baby dies after a routine hospital procedure, there is no doubt about who will be held responsible: the nurse who had been banned from looking after him by his father. A novel that brings forth the issue of race in a personal and easy to understand way.