

Meeting 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at the Whimsical World Gallery, 116 Jones St. in Landrum, SC
Services begin at 10:30 am • Mailing Address: UUFCF, P. O. Box 653, Tryon, NC 28782

June, 2026 Events

- Sunday, 6/7 Service at 10:30
- Wednesday, 6/10 Women's Discussion Group at 2:00 – Landrum Library
- Tuesday, 6/16 Men's Discussion Group at 12:30 – Polk County Library (*Note time change*)
- Sunday, 6/21 Service at 10:30
- Tuesday, 6/30 Men's Discussion Group at 11:00 – Polk County Library

Sunday, June 7, 2026

“Discovering Humanism” –Angel Freire

Angel Freire, one of the leaders of the Humanist program at the UU Church of Spartanburg, will share his philosophical perspective on life's meaning after discovering this refuge from a lifetime of protestant indoctrination. (Take a moment to read his brief bio on Page 2.) When asked for an introductory quote, he provided the following:

“The significance of our lives and our fragile planet is determined only by our own wisdom and courage. We are the custodians of life's meaning. We long for a Parent to care for us, to forgive us our errors, to save us from our childish mistakes. But knowledge is preferable to ignorance. Better by far to embrace the hard truth than a reassuring fable. If we crave some cosmic purpose, then let us find ourselves a worthy goal.” -- Carl Sagan

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Qualitas Occulta –Ernie Mills

“Hidden force” is the English translation of this Latin term *qualitas occulta*. It refers to those forces behind nature that are inexplicable, unknown and perhaps even unknowable. When I think of such hidden forces I can't help but to think of the Tao, in Taoism or the Greek idea, *Moria*, both of which name the nameless. Something Joseph Campbell once said that I find very intriguing is that God is not the Source, but the manifestation of the Source- one more expression of the *qualitas occulta*. We will explore this idea and human expressions and reactions to it through the centuries.



A New Fiscal Year

The last day of May brought us a full “Blue Moon” and a Fifth Sunday Service devoted primarily to our Annual Congregational Meeting at the Tryon Depot. The morning ended with a catered lunch. *Hats Off* to Alisa and Tom for arranging for the venue and food, and a special thanks to their daughter Lane for her contribution in setting up and tearing down. In addition to minor bylaw amendments, the meeting established new board members for the 2026-2027 term. (*See P. 2 for meeting highlights and pictures.*) Possessing both familiarity with UU initiatives and experience in management roles, the new board members plan to hit the ground running.

Angel Freire – *Guest Speaker*



On June 7, we'll welcome a fellow UU who will offer perspective on why Unitarian Universalism is an appropriate home for someone who considers him/herself a Humanist. Angel Freire holds a degree in Computer Science from Florida International University and has spent more than 30 years in the trenches of the IT industry. Born into a "nominally Catholic" household, he attended a Presbyterian school from K-12, where his worldview held firm until an elective *Philosophy 101* course during his second semester at college. This experience awakened a passion for philosophical inquiry, reflection, and study that persists to this day. He is currently one of the leaders of the Humanist program at UUCS, applying his philosophical perspective to monthly programs on a wide variety of subjects.

Fifth Sunday Service and Annual Meeting Highlights

On Sunday, May 31, the brief service before our annual congregational meeting began with the announcement of Jeanie Carter's recent accident, falling backwards on an airport escalator and cracking her skull. After three days of intensive hospital care, she is now at home recovering with the help of her daughter and family. We learned that Zia Terhune's sister was having some worrisome health problems. Ernie's address, though punctuated with lively guitar playing and singing (with Rob McClasky,) was somber in its message as he shared that his late daughter JoAnn, who died on June 1 two years ago of a brain tumor, would have turned 42. It was a moment of reflection, later followed by Alisa Mosely's reminder that our small congregation also lost some good friends this past year... Derek Harrison, John Matthews, and Sally MacMillan. These losses are powerful reminders that life is short, and that our relationships with other people should be treasured.

Alisa presided over the business meeting and provided an overview of the Fellowship's challenges and progress over the past three years. Tom Kosmata distributed prepared current and proposed budgets, explaining where our money goes, and members voted to approve the new budget. Alisa shared bylaw changes the board was proposing, and after some discussion and clarification of each, they too were adopted. The business meeting concluded with the Fellowship's approval of the slate of new board candidates announced by Nick Fischer and Joy Soderquist. Alisa presented newly elected president Don Greeson with a symbol of transition – a key to the Whimsical World Gallery.

A much deserved Thank You goes out to all who served on the Board over the past three yearly terms:



Alisa Mosely, *President*



Don Greeson, *VP*



Tom Kosmata, *Treasurer*



Janice Minshew, *Secretary*

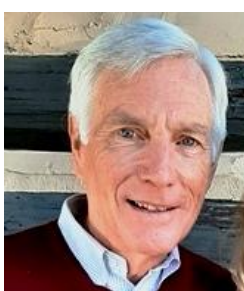


Christine Mariotti,
Member at Large

This month, the current Board will transition to the new Board to lead fiscal year July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.



Don Greeson, *President*



Nick Fischer, *VP*



Rob McClasky, *Treasurer*



Cathy Fischer, *Secretary*



Anita Wofford,
Member at Large