
February 2019: Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church

Welcoming Congregation

The Bridge

*10:00 a.m. each Sunday: Intergenerational Devotional

*10:10 a.m. Religious Education for all ages

*Primary: "Love Surrounds Us"

*Teens: "UU Kids"

*Adults: "Universalism 101": Richard Trudeau

February 3: "Leap of Faith" – Ann Malpass – Based on the writings of Christine Robinson & Alicia Hawkins from *Listening Hearts*. Can you smile at a stranger, work for justice, get out of bed in the morning? Then you have taken a leap of faith. Let's talk about our own "leaps of faith".

February 10: "More than Words: Love, Trust & Relationships" – Reverend Claudia M. Frost – We sometimes forget that *love and trust go hand in hand*. How do we build trust in our friendships, romantic relationships or work interactions? What does our ability to trust life have to say about us as a people of faith? Join us for a life-giving message of love, trust and hope.

February 17: "Gratitude: How Gratitude Sustains Us Even in Difficult Times" – Reverend Lois Cavanagh-Daley

February 24: "Justice, Equity and Compassion" – Reverend Claudia M. Frost – Second in our series on our Seven Principles. *Justice, Equity and Compassion in Human Relations* may look like lofty goals, but we are called to live this the best we can. Join us to reflect on Jesus's teachings to *love thy neighbor as thyself*. What would the world look like if we did our best to be just and equitable in all our relations with others and interacted compassionately with everyone we encounter?

FEBRUARY 17TH: NATIONAL RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS DAY

Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church 4408 N NC Highway 111, Seven Springs, NC 28578 www.outlawsbridgechurch.org outlawsbridge@att.net.
A Green Sanctuary, A Welcoming Congregation, Affiliated with the Universalist Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (UCONCI) The Universalist Convocations, The Southeast District of the UUA, and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).



Dates to Remember

February 10: Board Meeting Following Services and Covered-Dish Lunch.

February 16: Have Lunch at the Albertson Fox Hunt and then at 1:00 p.m. join us for the AUW Annual Take Home Sale.

February 27: Musical Concert Featuring Gabby Potter on violin with our own Jimmy Merritt. Covered-dish supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by concert.

May 17-19, 2019: Universalist Convocation at Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center in New Jersey. Theme is: Hope...Not Hell



**PRESIDENT'S DAY:
FEBRUARY 18**

Claudia's Comments

There are a lot of special events and interesting celebrations during this shortest month of the year.

Groundhog Day starts things off on **February 2nd** with the legends brought to Pennsylvania by German immigrants. *Punxsutawney Phil* the groundhog garners fans and publicity each year for his predictions. If he sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If not, Spring is coming soon.

The **Super Bowl** on **February 3rd** presents a fun day for friends and family to gather to watch the game. It's a great excuse for a party with lots of snacks and predictions on the winners for the best Super Bowl ad of 2019. On **February 5th** followers of Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism will celebrate the **Chinese New Year** with special foods, fireworks and prayers for their ancestors. 2019 is the *Year of the Pig*. People under this sign are thought to be gentle, accommodating and calm in appearance and strong of heart.

By **February 13th**, **Mardi Gras** festivities begin along the Gulf Coast with parties and parades that culminate next month on *Fat Tuesday*, the night before Lent begins on *Ash Wednesday*. Of course, **February 14th** is a favorite day for candy makers, florists, card makers and sweethearts when our attention turns to **Valentine's Day** each year. This is also a special time to pay attention to our friends to let them know how much their friendship means in our lives.

On the **15th** of the month, let's remember fellow Unitarian **Susan B. Anthony** who tirelessly worked for women to receive the right to vote. **February 17th** is a great opportunity to put a smile on the face of many people because it's national **Random Acts of Kindness Day**. Let's all do something unexpected and kind for someone you may not even know.

February 18th is a significant day for all Unitarian Universalists and people around the world who value religious tolerance. On this day in 1568, King John Sigismund of Romania decreed the act of religious tolerance known as the **Edict of Torda**. An article on the UUA website states that Unitarianism was officially recognized for the first time in the history of the world in the **Edict of Torda**. **February 18th** is also the day we will celebrate **President's Day** this year. Presidents George Washington's and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays are celebrated each year with special programs, history lessons on their contributions to our nation and, of course, a National Holiday with many retail sales.

The entire month of February is dedicated as **Black History Month**. I invite you to take the time to explore and deepen your knowledge of Black History facts you may never have heard of and increase your awareness of the many contributions of African Americans in our country's history.

Check out www.pbs.org/black-culture/explore/10-black-history-little-known-facts for some little known stories.

In addition to **February** events and celebrations, our monthly theme is **TRUST**. What does it mean to be a people of **TRUST**? Join us to explore this theme during my sermon on "Love, Trust and Relationship" on **February 10th** and more reflections on **TRUST** through the lens of our Second UU Principle (**Justice, Equity and Compassion**) on **February 24th**.

With Love, Hope, and Joy,

Reverend Claudia