November 2022: Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church Welcoming Congregation

The Bridge

No Sunday School Programs and no Childcare during this time. The playroom is clean and open for parents who wish to use it. Due to Covid-19, except for Sunday 11:00 a.m. services, many activities remain cancelled. Sunday School programs have been cancelled until further notice.

November 6, 2022: "The Wages of War" – Ed Clark – Veterans Day Presentation: America's Veterans from Valley Forge to Vietnam.

November 13, 2022: "The Purpose and Power of Telling Stories" – Reverend Brian Clougherty – We have lots of stories in our lives, our families and our cultures. Stories have a deep and powerful influence, shaping how we understand ourselves and our world. Let's look at how our stories work to shape our world and how our stories can change as we change.

November 20, 2022: "New Thoughts on Gospel Origins" – Reverend Justin Lapoint – The fall 2022 Biblical Archaeology Review contains an article by Professor Robyn Faith Walsh titled "The Origins of the Gospels". I will compare and contrast the traditional Christian understanding, the traditional scholarly interpretation and the new ideas from Professor Walsh.

November 27, 2022: "Hell? No!" – Reverend Charlie Davis – Universalism is unique among religions because it does not try to scare people into being good. There is no threat of Hell or Endless Karma; just a belief that people have it within themselves to love each other and the world.



<u>Dates to Remember</u>

November 10: Lunch at Johnny's Seafood followed by AUW meeting at church at 1:00 p.m.

November 13: Lunch and Board Meeting Following Service.

November 20: Films on Leandro Education Case following service.





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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).

"The Republic Gives Thanks"

By Amanda Gorman

In 1863, deep in the Civil War's magnitude, Abraham Lincoln declared a day of gratitude
Shared by one heart and one voice of America. A proclamation for a nation in a nightmare,
This Thanksgiving dared Americans to chime their thanks at a time when many believed
That they had no thanks to give.

Yet is this quirky day now all about turkey?

About a plate full of food? Or is it about being grateful
In more than just attitude? The Iroquois remind us
With one mind, to find the words That come before all else,
Because to give thanks is to live it.

It's not just in speech,

But in each of our daily actions. It's reaching across divisions towards a Vision of a long, strong house and table where we're able to gather together.

If we dream past pilgrims and the mast of the Mayflower,
It may empower us to bravely learn from the People of the First Light,
To return to Lincoln's fight, to furnish our might by uniting around
Any piece of peace, no matter how small.

We still hear all of these first teachers, called by the will of those still here on this earth,
Like the Wampanoag, who show us the worthiest way to give thanks for our blessings
Isn't to hog them, but to give them away.

It is then, full of this feeling, that healing can begin, because maybe

To be American is to be a kin to a courageous hope:

The trust that even if just for a moment we can, we must, close rank as people,

One heart, one voice, one mind, created equal.

Like two vessels meeting at a riverbank anew under the sky's greeting of a bright, blank blue, You'll begin beside the people who flank you. We come to these words before and above all dreams, saying with more love and restored meaning: Thank you.