October 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 delayed until Fall 2022.

October 2, 2022: "Looking for Beauty" – Reverend Charlie Davis – Photography has been a spiritual practice for Reverend Charlie. The worries of the day can obscure the surrounding beauty. A camera helps one focus ones' spirit.

October 9, 2022: "Faith, Hope and ...Harry Potter" – Reverend Brian Clougherty – Fantasy and science stories often involve faith in a greater good and hope when all hope is lost, and trust to build to a thrilling climax where the heroes persevere despite despair. Another ingredient is also key – love.

October 16, 2022: "Service on Principle Six: The Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty and Justice for All" – From Gail Forsyth-Vail's "Stories in Faith".

October 23, 2022: "Edith Bradshaw Scholarship" – Michael Mozingo – Mother's Day 2022 was the 20th anniversary of the establishment of this scholarship in honor of Michael's Mother. He will be sharing through song and testimony how the scholarship has been a loving and gentle reminder of God's plan and purpose for his life. The three tenets of his life are: faith, a mother's love and an education.

October 30, 2022: "The Religion of the Heart" – Reverend Dr. V. Elaine Strawn – The second in the three-part series of services from Universalist Convocation 2022 from Bellville, Ohio.



Dates to Remember

October 9: Covered dish lunch and Board meeting following service.

October 13: Lunch at Johnny's Seafood followed by AUW meeting at church at 1:00 p.m.





October 1: Harvest Sale starting at 3:00 p.m. followed by Supper at 6:00.

Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church 4408 N NC Highway 111, Seven Springs, NC 28578 <u>www.outlawsbridgechurch.org</u> <u>outlawsbridge@att.net</u>. 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 Universalist Association (UUA).

Book Excerpt: "Dinners with Ruth"

By Nina Totenberg

"Friends play a unique role in our lives. We all, to varying degrees, have family, and for some, like me, it is a source of love, closeness, and wonderful support, but it is not that way for everyone. Beyond our biological, relational, or marital families, each of us is given the opportunity to establish a family of friends. Friends can sometimes do things for you that your own family cannot. They might even do some things better or see things more clearly.

My appreciation of friendship has deepened over the years; life with its twists and turns has taught me much about the intensity of friendship and its value. I, who started out fiercely independent and doggedly focused, have found myself at various points humbled by events and challenges beyond my control. Repeatedly, the outstretched hand that has raised me up is friendship-and I am also deeply fortunate to count my sisters among my closest of friends.

Friends are the ones who rush to you when trouble strikes, they are the ones who stand loyally by your side, they are the ones who find the helpful words and perform the acts of kindness that blunt the very rough spots in our world. Friendship is also reciprocal. Reach out to your own friends when they are in need, and you will be rewarded many times over. In my career, I have been blessed to cover fascinating newsmakers and vital issues, and to break some big stories, but what resonates now are the extraordinary people I have come to know, and whom I have been able to call my friends. My life story is interwoven with them and has been infinitely richer for them."

This excerpt really touched me because when I think of Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church, I think of my friends. This month is Harvest Sale month. Like at Homecoming on Mother's Day and the Love Feast in December, we find ourselves surrounded by those friends we very rarely see. We are mostly adults, but we joke and laugh like young children. I have many loving memories of this place we call church. We hold dear the memories of the friends now gone and the new friends we have made over the years.

I hope that you can find the time to come back to Outlaw's Bridge; and I hope you laugh with your friends.

Lisa