

Universalist Convocation 2017

“Universalism with a Southern Flavor”

275 Liberty Church Road

Louisville, Mississippi

May 19-21, 2017

“Welcome to all who believe that religion is wider than any sect, and deeper than any set of opinions.

We don't have to think alike to love alike.”

Friday evening and Sunday morning activities will be held at **Liberty Universalist Church**.



Other activities will be held at the lodge at **Legion State Park**, 635 Legion State Park Road, Louisville, MS 39339. legion@mdwfp.state.ms.us. Meals are being provided by the Liberty congregation. Available Lodging (please book early): Basic cabins at Legion State Park (\$75) 662-773-8323 Homegate Inn (\$63-\$69) 662-773-4005. 851 Metts St., Louisville, MS 39339 Lake Tiak O'Khata (\$109) 1-888-845-6151 or 662-773-7853. 213 Smyth Lake Road, Louisville, MS 39339 Quality Inn, (\$78) 662-773-9090. 15 North, Louisville, MS 39339

Speakers and Workshop Leaders:

Barbara Waldrop - “The Legacy of Universalism at Liberty Church”

Mark Tribble - “Christian Universalism”

Linda Foshee - Sunday morning worship

William “Brother” Rogers - “Mississippi History Through Historical Markers”

Dr. Joseph D. Witt - “Principles of Universalism in Environmental Attitudes and Behaviors”

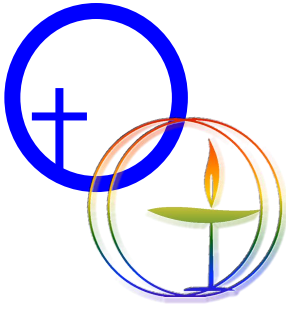
Dr. Maria K Rutland- “Rev. Nellie Mann Opdale, Early 20th Century Pastor and Editor of the Universalist Herald prior to WWII” and others

For additional information:

email Glenn & Sherrie Wiygul at gswiygul@yahoo.com

For flyer, registration, schedule of events, fees, and membership forms: see www.outlawsbridgechurch.org/Convocation.html or

email Peggy Jones at pjays20@hotmail.com, or write her at PO Box 235, Seven Springs, NC 28578.



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REGISTRATION FORM:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone(s) (h) _____ (w) _____ (c) _____

Email (please print clearly) _____

Special dietary needs: _____ [] Vegetarian

REGISTRATION FEE:	cost	# of registrations	Total
A. Convocation 2017 : Includes all speakers; Friday night supper, Saturday breakfast, lunch and supper, Sunday breakfast, and entrance fees to Legion State Park.	\$ 75.00	x _____ people	\$ _____
or			
B. Friday night activities only with supper	\$ 30.00	x _____ people	\$ _____
Saturday Morning Activities only with lunch	\$ 30.00	x _____ people	\$ _____
All Saturday Activities with lunch and supper	\$ 50.00	x _____ people	\$ _____
Total Enclosed			\$ _____

Send completed registration form and check made payable to **The Universalist Convocations** to Peggy Jones, PO Box 235, Seven Springs, NC 28578. (A limited number of scholarships are available for those who find the cost prohibitive.)

ACCOMMODATIONS (Please book early):

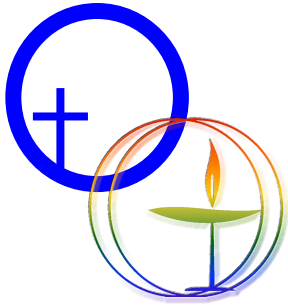
You will need to make your own hotel reservations.

Basic cabins at Legion State Park (\$75) 662-773-8323, legion@mdwfp.state.ms.us, 635 Legion State Park Road, Louisville, MS 39339.

Homegate Inn (\$63-\$69) 662-773-4005. 851 Metts St., Louisville, MS 39339

Lake Tiak O’Khata (\$109) 1-888-845-6151 or 662-773-7853, 213 Smyth Lake Road, Louisville, MS 39339

Quality Inn, (\$78) 662-773-9090, 15 North, Louisville, MS 39339



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Liberty Universalist Church
275 Liberty Church Road, Louisville, MS
Schedule of Events

Friday, May 19, 2017 (at Liberty Universalist Church)

- 4:00 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 p.m. Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Welcome, Announcements, and Introduction of Speaker
- 7:30 p.m. William “Brother” Rogers— **“Mississippi History Through Historical Markers”**
- 8:30 p.m. Social Hour

Saturday, May 20, 2017 (at Legion State Park, 635 Legion State Park Road, Louisville, MS)

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast - Take a Walk
- 9:00 a.m. Devotional
- 9:30 a.m. Barbara Waldrop—**“The Legacy of Universalism at Liberty Church”**
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 11:00 a.m. Mark Tribble— **“Christian Universalism: A Religion for America”**
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch with **Universalist Herald Highlights**, other announcements, and Free Time
- 1:30 p.m. Dr. Joseph D. Witt— **“Principles of Universalism in Environmental Attitudes and Behaviors”**
- 2:30 p.m. Break
- 3:00 p.m. Dr. Maria Rutland— **“Rev. Nellie Mann Opdale: Mid-twentieth Century Universalist Minister and Editor of The Universalist Herald”**
- 4:00 p.m. Break
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. **“The Liberty Musicians”**
- 8:30 p.m. Social Hour

Sunday, May 21, 2017 (at Liberty Universalist Church)

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. The Universalist Convocations Business Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Linda Foshee—Worship Service—**“A Man Named Tex”**
- 11:00 p.m. Fellowship and Social Hour

Linda Parker Foshee

Sunday Worship —10:00 a.m. at Liberty Universalist Church
“A Man Named Tex”



Linda Parker Foshee is a native of Laurel, Mississippi, in *“The Free State of Jones”* County. After earning a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The University of Southern Mississippi (**USM**), she taught music in the elementary classroom for ten years. In 1975, Linda returned to her Alma Mater where she worked for twenty-eight (28) years as Administrative Secretary to the Director of the School of Music, retiring in 2004. Linda is married to Jamie Foshee, a retired band director.

In 1999, Linda assumed the role of lay minister to Our Home Universalist Unitarian Church, her home church in Ellisville, MS. She resigned this ministry in 2013 but continues to serve as lay minister to Liberty Universalist Church in rural Winston County (Louisville, MS). This April marks Linda’s 20th Anniversary of bi-monthly lay ministry to the congregation.

Speakers—Universalist Convocation 2017—May 19-21, 2017



William "Brother" Rogers

Friday—7:30 p.m. at the church—"Mississippi History Through Historical Markers"

William Rogers, who goes by the nickname "Brother", became the director of the Programs and Communications Division of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in 2017. From 1990 to 2016, he was the associate director of the [John C. Stennis Center for Public Service](#) in Starkville, Mississippi. Before joining the Stennis Center, Brother served as a legislative assistant to U.S. Representative Donald Payne of New Jersey. Brother graduated magna cum laude in 1987 from the University of Alabama, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in economics, was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, and was selected as a Harry S. Truman Scholar from Mississippi. He holds a master's degree in public affairs (MPA) from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. He grew up in Brandon, Mississippi and was a high school exchange student in Kyoto, Japan.

Barbara Waldrop

Saturday—9:30 p.m. at Legion State Park—"The Legacy of Universalism at Liberty Church"

Barbara Waldrop was born into Liberty Church and has continued to be a life-long Universalist who has worked in the church. She was born in Louisville, MS and attended East Central Junior College, the University of South Mississippi (B.S. in education) and Mississippi State University (MFA). She taught 42 years in Mississippi and Alabama. She is the mother of two, grandmother of five, and great grandmother of one. Retired, Barbara is the caregiver of her mother and avid reader and artist.



Mark Tribble

Saturday—11:00 a.m. at Legion State Park—"Christian Universalism: A Religion for America"

Mark Tribble is currently pursuing an ordination course with the CUA. Raised as an Evangelical yet unable to accept eternal torment, he embarked on a meandering spiritual path of both mainstream churches and fringe movements, including a period of fairly intense bible study in a home church environment. A student of hidden history, both secular and religious, he is interested in the great potential of Christian Universalism to be a positive force in American society.



Dr. Joseph D. Witt

Saturday—1:30 p.m. at Legion State Park

"Principles of Universalism in Environmental Attitudes and Behaviors"

Joseph D. Witt is Assistant Professor of Religion at Mississippi State University. Professor Witt's research and teaching interests focus on the intersections between religious and environmental attitudes and behaviors. He has a primary interest in social and environmental justice issues in the southern United States, environmental ethics, and U.S. religious history. His recent volume, *Religion and Resistance in Appalachia* (University Press of Kentucky, 2016), examines the place of religious values within the local direct action resistance movement against mountaintop removal coal mining in Appalachia. He continues to write and publish on environmental activism, but current and future interests also include food security and resilience in the South, particularly surrounding racial and economic factors influencing access to sustainably-produced and nutritious food. He is also interested in place-based interdisciplinary environmental education in the southern U.S. and is currently working to develop southern place-based environmental curricula and other opportunities for experiential environmental education at Mississippi State University.



Rev. Dr. Maria LK Rutland

Saturday—3:00 p.m. at Legion State Park

"Rev. Nellie Mann Opdale, Universalist Pastor and Editor of The Universalist Herald"

Maria Rutland was born in Atlanta, GA and raised in Macon, GA. She graduated from Emory University in 1976 with honors in history. Maria received her Masters of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA (1980) and her Doctor of Ministry from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL (1994). She has been a minister in the Presbyterian Church for over 35 years, serving churches in Georgia, Michigan, and Indiana. She currently serves the Salem Center Presbyterian Church in Hudson, IN. Maria is the mother of two grown daughters; walked the Camino de Santiago in Spain (2014); and is an avid gardener and dog lover.



Throughout her career Maria has pursued her passion for American (especially Southern) church history and the history of women's ordination in American churches. Her research on the impact of UU clergywomen on the ordination and acceptance of clergywomen in mainline Protestant churches was presented at the UU Historical Convocation in Minneapolis last year. Maria will be presenting a biography of Rev. Nellie Mann Opdale (1861-1941), a Universalist pastor for over 40 years and editor of *The Universalist Herald* (1932-1941).



The Universalist Convocations Membership Form

The purpose of the Universalist Convocations is to unite Unitarian Universalists “to explore and draw from the heritage of Universalist experience and faith to inform Unitarian Universalism today and help light its way toward the future”. Universalist Convocations began in 1990 and is organized exclusively for educational, religious and charitable purposes. It is affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Related Organization.

Membership is open to any interested person and annual membership dues are only \$5.00. If you are interested in joining us or would like to be added to our mailing list, please complete the form below and return it to the address below. You are not required to be a member to attend our annual meetings. We hope to see you at our next gathering. However, membership is required to vote at the annual meeting.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of Church or Society: _____

Dues for 2017/2018 _____ @ \$5.00 each \$ _____

Additional Contribution if desired \$ _____

Earmark for: _____

Total remittance \$ _____

Make check payable to: The Universalist Convocations

Please remit to: Peggy Jones
P O Box 235
Seven Springs, NC 28578-0235
(or hand-deliver to Peggy at Convocation)



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A bulletin of information, ideas, and ideals. Devoted to a living religion and vital faith that motivates individual responsibility and positive action. Established in 1847 by the Reverend C.F.R. Shehane of Wetumpka, Alabama, as the *Religious Investigator*. Beginning January 1, 1850, it became the *Universalist Herald*, edited by the Reverend John Crenshaw Burruss. Fill out the form below and send with a check made to **The Universalist Herald** to Douglas Shaheen at the address provided or via Paypal on the website.

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