

The Bridge

You are encouraged to join us for 11:00 a.m. church services.

No Sunday School programs and no childcare.

The playroom is clean and open for parents who wish to use it.

April 7: "Caught Between the Lines" – Jimmy Merritt – We are asked to draw on traditions for our faith as well as to heed the call of Science and Reason. But often traditional rites and legends involve ideas and beliefs that belie the call to reason.

April 14: "Who Art in Heaven" – Reverend Brian Clougherty – The prayer known as "Our Father" is a Christian standard and the go-to prayer for Christians at interfaith events, because it is tolerable to the Abrahamic faiths of Judaism and Islam, given that it does not name Jesus or a Son of God. Let's look at this prayer, where it came from, and how contemporary language and understanding might say it.

April 21: "Earth Day" – With Lisa Stolar.

April 28: "Is the U. S. Headed for Another Civil War?" – Ed Clark – Subtitle: What the Current Evidence Shows. Dr. Barbara F. Walter, Political Scientist and National Security analyst discusses the possibility. Her recent research shows the U.S. moving from a Democracy towards an Anocracy (Semi-democracy) where the checks and balances called for by the Constitution are no longer being respected. Examples: A politicized Supreme Court, a malfunctioning Legislative Branch and an Executive Branch (2017-2021) that was Autocratic and may return to power again in January 2025.



Dates to Remember

April 11: Lunch and AUV Meeting. Meet at the church at 11:45 a.m. for lunch; meeting at 1:00 p.m.

April 13: Hosting the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh Coming of Age young adults.

April 14: Covered-dish lunch and board meeting following services.



“Earth is Not in Danger, We Are: From ‘Saving the Earth to Saving Humanity’”

Sangeeta Yadav

In recent years, environmentalists have urged the world to “save the earth” from the negative impact of human activities. However, the phrase “save the earth” can be misleading. The earth has been around for over 4.5 billion years, and it will continue to exist long after we are gone. It is not the earth that is in danger; it is humanity. Therefore, it is time to shift our focus from “saving the earth” to “saving humanity”.

The fact is the planet will continue to exist long after we are gone. The earth has seen far worse than anything we can do to it, from asteroid impacts to massive volcanic eruptions. Even if we were to completely destroy our own habitat, the earth would eventually recover and continue on without us. So, when we talk about “saving the earth”, what we really mean is saving ourselves.

The threats to humanity are very real, and they are growing more severe every day. Climate change is leading to more extreme weather events, sea level rise and changes in agricultural productivity. Pollution is causing health problems and the loss of biodiversity is reducing the resilience of ecosystems that we depend on for our survival. These are not abstract or distant threats; they are affecting people all over the world, and they are only going to get worse unless we take action.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the scale of these challenges, and to feel like there's nothing we can do to make a difference. But that's simply not true. Every action we take to reduce our carbon footprint, to conserve resources, or to support sustainable practices is a step in the right direction. It may not solve the problem overnight, but it will make a difference over time. And the more people who take these actions, the bigger the impact will be.

Saving humanity requires concerted efforts from individuals, governments and organizations. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that we can take significant steps to reduce our negative impact on the environment. For example, remote work and telecommuting can reduce traffic congestion and emissions from transportation. Governments can implement policies that promote renewable energy, protect biodiversity and reduce pollution. As individuals, we can support these policies and advocate for their implementation.

In conclusion, “saving humanity” is a more accurate and urgent goal than “saving the earth”. We must recognize that our actions have a significant impact on the environment, which, in turn, affects our health and well-being. Therefore, it is crucial to take immediate action to reduce our negative impact on the environment and promote sustainable practices. By doing so, we can protect humanity and the planet for generations to come.