



**The Threshold**

**Towson Unitarian  
Universalist Church**

*A Welcoming Congregation*

**THERE WILL BE ONE SERVICE AT 10:30 AM ON DECEMBER 29!**

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

**SUNDAY SERVICE, DECEMBER 29, 2019**  
**ONE SERVICE AT 10:30 AM**



Enter the new year from a place of peace and readiness. Join ministerial intern **Lora Powell-Haney** for worship and ritual celebrating the healing power of community, music, Earth, Air, Fire, and Water.

This service is appropriate for all ages; the ritual includes moving through stations for each of the elements; options for those who prefer to remain seated will be offered.

Come let the beauty, wonder, and awe of music, movement, and being together create space for growth and renewal in the year to come.



**RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION**

YRE classes are on hiatus until January 5. Happy holidays!

## NOTICES

### IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF DICK SCHROEDER



We regret to inform you of the death of Harry Richard Schroeder. Dick was an accomplished pianist and served as an accompanist for TUUC for many years.

For over two decades, Dick was the Music Director at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County. He returned to TUUC as a guest musician on Sunday mornings. He also played at TUUC special events with the jazz group The Silverbacks. One of the last times I saw Dick, he was debarking with his wife Grace from a double decker bus in Edinburgh two years ago. He was an avid traveler! More information about Dick's life may be found here: <https://www.evansfuneralchapel.com/notices/Harry-Schroeder>.

---Rev. Clare

### PLEDGE REMINDER

As the year end approaches, there may be advantages for members to meet their annual pledge to TUUC by directing that the pledge come from a retirement account as part of a required minimum distribution. Talk to your financial advisor to see if this could be of benefit given your financial circumstances.

Thanks to all who are current in fulfilling their pledge to TUUC. It helps us to fulfill our mission to deepen our ethical and spiritual lives together as we work for racial, social, and environmental justice.

### NEXT WEEK'S THRESHOLD

Please remember to submit your Threshold announcements for next week's Threshold (1/3/20) **no later than 12 noon on Tuesday, December 31**, as Wednesday is a holiday!

### TUUC COMMON READ FOR 2019-2020

*An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz; adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese (Beacon Press, 2019), 280 pages.

#### Discussion dates to choose from:

1. Sunday, January 5, 1:30-3:00 pm in the Meeting Room; Discussion leaders: Lora Powell-Haney and Rose Green
2. Wednesday, Jan 8, 7:30 – 9:00 in the Lower Level Open Area (Wednesday Evening Book Group), following their usual approach (not using the UUA discussion guide)
3. Wednesday, Jan 22, 7:00-8:30 pm in Room 7 (A Dialog on Race and Ethnicity meeting on indigenous lives); Discussion leader: Kathleen Ramirez







### **SOCIAL ACTION HOLIDAY GIVING**

Thank you for generously donating to fulfill **Earl's Place** resident Donte's Holiday Wish List. TUUC put AWE into action! Thank you!

**PROLOGUE** is a homeless outreach program in Towson open three days a week. With winter approaching, Prologue would appreciate donations of caps, scarves,

mittens, and gloves. Donations may be placed in the ACTC basket or contact Sue Shankroff.

### **MENTORING MALE TEENS IN THE HOOD**

We will continue to collect donations through December 29 for the MMTH

Our Holiday goal for Mentoring Male Teens is to contribute to their annual trip, which exposes and introduces the Kings to a world outside of their daily life.

Please donate by cash or check. Checks should be payable to TUUC with MMTH in the memo line. \$20, \$25, \$50, \$100

How does TUUC's current Sunday morning schedule work (or not work) for you and your family? We want to hear from you! The Sunday Morning Structure Team will be hosting a series of upcoming listening sessions to gather insight from our members and friends as we continue to refine our Sunday morning experience.

Sunday morning

Please join us for one of the following gatherings:

Jan 11 - 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (Childcare available; contact Joyce for arrangements.)

Jan 19 - 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Jan 26 - 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM (Childcare available; contact Joyce for arrangements.)

Jan 27 - 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Feb 16 - 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Feb 23 - 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Feb 24 - 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

## ONGOING AND UPCOMING

### **SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, AT 6 PM**

The group will get a start on ringing in the new year in the church lobby. We offer an atmosphere for fellowship and friendship among TUUC single adults. We range in age from the 60's to 80's, but gladly welcome anyone to join us. Please call Ronald Rowley to RSVP and to get more information. He is listed in the church directory.

### **SUNDAY SERVICES JANUARY 5, 2019 TWO SERVICES AT 9:30 and 11:15 AM**

*When I Say It's You I Like....*

Rev. Clare L. Petersberger

The start of a New Year gives us the opportunity to reflect on how we are spending our time. Someone once said, "You rarely have time for everything you want in this life, so you need to make choices. And hopefully your choices can come from a deep sense of who you are." That someone was Fred Rogers. Today we begin our exploration of what it means to be a people of integrity by reflecting on what Mr. Rogers taught and modeled about integrity.

### **SOUPS ON! JANUARY 5TH**



After the second service there will be a variety of soups, salad and desert for lunch.

Perfect to reconnect with friends in the New Year.

Asking for a contribution of \$5

### **GALLERY UNICORN TUUC MEMBERS' SHOW**

In the "better late than never" category comes this request for art from the members and friends of TUUC. The annual members'

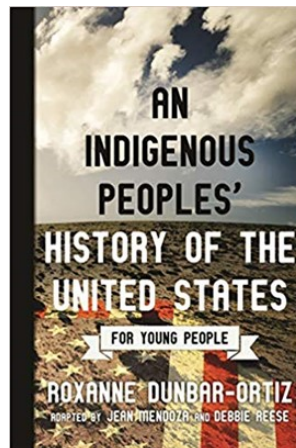
show will be hung on **JANUARY 6, 2020** and run from 1/12/2020 through 2/23/2020. If you or anyone in your family is an artist, I welcome (encourage) you to submit a work or 2 to the show. If you have any questions, want to include something in the show, need encouragement to get your art up on the walls of our church.....please call me (Lisa Lubomski) at 443-869-0508 or email to [lialu1958@gmail.com](mailto:lialu1958@gmail.com).

### **PROGRAM COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting of the Program Council will be on **Wednesday, January 8, at 7:30** in the Lobby All are welcome.

### **THE EVENING BOOK GROUP**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 7:30 PM**



An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (non-fiction, 2014, 296 pages)

The UUA's Common Read

2015 Recipient of the American Book Award

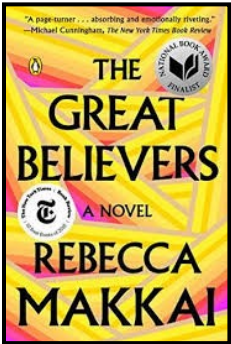
In this first history of the

United States told from the perspective of indigenous peoples, Dunbar-Ortiz adroitly challenges the founding myth of the United States and shows how policy against the Indigenous peoples was colonialist and designed to seize the territories of the original inhabitants, displacing or eliminating them. Spanning more than four hundred years, this classic bottom-up peoples' history radically reframes US history and explodes the silences that have haunted our national narrative.



\*Please note that the adult version of the book is 296 pages. The actual text of the book is 239 pages followed by 60 pages of acknowledgements, notes, works cited and an index.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 7:30 PM**  
**THE GREAT BELIEVERS BY REBECCA MAKKAI**  
**(FICTION, 2018, 431 PAGES)**



A dazzling novel of friendship and redemption in the face of tragedy and loss set in 1980s Chicago and contemporary Paris, by the acclaimed and award-winning author Rebecca Makkai. In 1985, Yale Tishman, the development director for an art gallery in Chicago, is about to pull off an amazing coup, bringing in an extraordinary collection of 1920s paintings as a gift to the gallery. Yet as his career begins to flourish, the carnage of the AIDS epidemic grows around him.

*The Great Believers* has become a critically acclaimed, indelible piece of literature; it was selected as one of the *New York Times* 10 Best Books of the Year, a *Washington Post* Notable Book, a BuzzFeed Book of the Year, a Skimm Reads pick, and a pick for the New York Public Library's Best Books of the year.

*All are welcome. Contact Jane Selewach (contact info in the Breeze) if you have any questions.*

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Are you interested in deepening your relationship with Towson Unitarian Universalist Church?



The Membership Committee is offering one hour sessions on membership at TUUC, which include a brief discussion of UU theology and history and a light lunch. The sessions start at 12:45 PM.

If you are interested in attending any one of these, please RSVP to [membership@towsonuuc.org](mailto:membership@towsonuuc.org).

—**January 12, 2020**

—March 8, 2020

—May 3, 2020

**SUNDAY MORNING STRUCTURE TEAM**

How does TUUC's current Sunday morning schedule work (or not work) for you and your family? We want to hear from you! The Sunday Morning Structure Team will be hosting a series of upcoming listening sessions to gather insight from our members and friends as we continue to refine our Sunday morning experience.

Please join us for one of the following gatherings:

Jan 11 - 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (Childcare available; contact Joyce for arrangements.)

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Feb 16 - 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Feb 23 - 12:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Feb 24 - 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM



## USHER ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

Date	Time	Adults/Children	Choir	Lounge	Total	Visitors Total	Nursery
12/22/2019	10:30 AM	123/25	25	3	176	14	0
12/22/19	11:15 AM	89/16	0	2	107	5	0

## YRE ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

Nursery	K/1st	2nd/3rd	4th - 6th	7th - 9th	YRUU	TOTAL
3	3	7	5	10	10	38

## USHER ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE, 2019

Date	Time	Adults/Children	Choir	Lounge	Total	Visitors Total	Nursery
12/24/2019	5:30 PM	65/45	0	0	110	1	0
12/24/2019	7:30 APM	100/0	18	0	118	7	0



## DENOMINATIONAL MINUTE

### UU THE VOTE

Barely three weeks ago we announced our plans for UU the Vote—an ambitious campaign to galvanize and organize Unitarian Universalists nationwide around core issues of electoral justice in 2020. We asked and you delivered. Our goal was to raise \$50,000 in grassroots support by Giving Tuesday to fund the tools and resources needed for our official launch in January, which would be matched dollar-for-dollar by members of the UUA President's Council. Thanks to the tremendous generosity from UUs all around the country, our matching gift drive raised over \$100,000 in crucial startup funding!

This will allow us to mobilize voters, counter voter suppression, leverage our resources in key states, and engage in spiritually grounded, values-based issue conversations with voters in our communities all around the country. We couldn't have gotten this far without committed early adopters like you.

What's next?

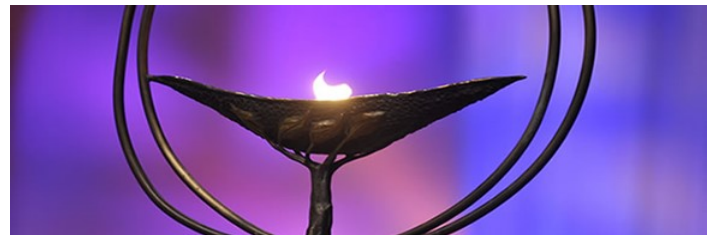
UU congregations and individuals will gather on Sunday afternoon, January 12, 2020 for UU the Vote's official launch event, which will be streamed live starting at 1 pm PT / 2 pm MT / 3 pm CT / 4 pm ET. Find an event near you or host a watch party in your area.

We'll introduce you to organizing tools and spiritual grounding resources the UUA Organizing Strategy Team has put together to support your efforts and let you know about key moments and places coming up in 2020. The stakes couldn't be higher in the 2020 election. Don't wait until January 12, check out our UU the Vote Team Building

Toolkit today so we can all hit the ground running in 2020 at the local, state and national level.

Thank you again for your excitement, your patience, and your direct role in helping to shape this campaign while we do this work together. Together we'll bring our passion to the polls and #VoteLove in 2020.

Interested in or going to GA? There is a GA app available for your cell phone.



### EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN!



Adult full-time registration is \$400 through March 15.

#### NEW! Registration Payment Plan:

With a \$50 down-payment, the cost of registration can be paid over the course several months. Final payment must be received by February 29, 2020. When the final registration is complete, special consideration for dormitory lodging bundles, [financial aid](#) and [volunteer opportunities](#) will become available.

[Register now!](#)

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar at [www.towsonuuc.org](http://www.towsonuuc.org) for most current schedule.

Date	Day	Event	Location	Start Time
27-Dec	Friday	No Meetings or events		
28-Dec	Saturday	No Meetings or events		
29-Dec	Sunday	Sunday Service	Meeting Room & Lobby	10:30 AM
31-Dec	Tuesday	Singles Potluck	Lobby, Kitchen	6:00 PM
1-Jan	Wednesday	<b>OFFICE IS CLOSED</b>		10:00 AM
1-Jan	Wednesday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
1-Jan	Wednesday	Al-Anon Meeting	Room 6	7:00 PM
2-Jan	Thursday	Choir Rehearsal	Meeting Room	5:00-6:30-7:30 PM
2-Jan	Thursday	Caring Ministry	Minister's Office	7:30 PM
3-Jan	Friday	Available Light	Meeting Room & Lobby	6:30 PM
5-Jan	Sunday	Sunday Services	Meeting Room & Lobby	9:30 & 11:15 AM
5-Jan	Sunday	Green Sanctuary	Lower Level Lobby	10:30 AM
5-Jan	Sunday	Sunday Lunch	Lobby	12:30 PM
5-Jan	Sunday	Common Read Discussion	Meeting Room	1:30 PM
6-Jan	Monday	Art Hanging	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
6-Jan	Monday	Handel Choir	Meeting Room & Lobby	6:00 PM
6-Jan	Monday	Mindful Meditation	Room 7	7:00 PM
7-Jan	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	Room 7	7:30 PM
7-Jan	Tuesday	Soul Matters	Room 6	7:30 PM
7-Jan	Tuesday	Women's Reflection Group	Room 4	7:30 PM
8-Jan	Wednesday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
8-Jan	Wednesday	A-Team Meeting	Minister's Office	6:30 PM
8-Jan	Wednesday	IMPROV	Meeting Room	7:00 PM
8-Jan	Wednesday	Al-Anon Meeting	Room 6	7:00 PM
8-Jan	Wednesday	Program Council Meeting	Lobby	7:30 PM
8-Jan	Wednesday	1st Wednesday Book Group	Lower Level Lobby	7:30 PM
9-Jan	Thursday	Choir Rehearsals	Meeting Room	5:00-6:30-7:30 PM
9-Jan	Thursday	Dragon's Way Qigong	Rooms 1,2,3	6:00 PM
9-Jan	Thursday	Men's Group	Room 7	7:30 PM
11-Jan	Saturday	Zen Community (tentative)	Meeting Rm, Lobby, Rm 7	9:00 AM
11-Jan	Saturday	Sunday Morning Structure	Room 3	9:15 AM
11-Jan	Saturday	Board Meeting	Rooms 1 & 2	9:30 AM



## **INCLEMENT WEATHER AND EMERGENCY CLOSURE INFORMATION**

In the event that severe weather or other emergencies compromise the safe use of TUUC facilities or property the church may cancel events or close to all activities. If the weather or the condition of the roads cause you to wonder whether we are proceeding with our programming as scheduled, please check for cancellations before you head out.

**The Church Office and facilities are closed 9-5 on weekdays if Baltimore County Public Schools are closed.**

Additional closure or cancellation information can be found in the following places:

- Outgoing Church Office Voicemail: (410) 825-6045
- <http://www.wbaltv.com/weather/closings>
- TUUC Website: <http://towsonuuc.org/>
- Church Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/51782871068/>
- TUUC Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/TowsonUnitarianUniversalistChurch/>
- TUUC Bulletin board/listserv: Request joining bulletin by emailing [assistant@towsonuuc.org](mailto:assistant@towsonuuc.org)

When the facility is closed no one is permitted on church grounds without the express permission of the Chairperson of the House and Grounds Council ([houseandgrounds@towsonuuc.org](mailto:houseandgrounds@towsonuuc.org))

We will do our utmost to update these sources as early and as quickly as possible. Please check multiple sources and use your best judgement. Event/activity/meeting leaders may choose to cancel events, activities or meetings even when the facility is not closed. For possible cancellations of a specific meeting or event please contact your event leader.

Event/activity/meeting leaders (Committee Chairs, Committee or Meeting Organizers, Board Members, and Staff, Etc.), it is your responsibility to notify your event, activity or meeting participants if you choose to cancel a session. Please also notify the Church Administrator ([churchoffice@towsonuuc.org](mailto:churchoffice@towsonuuc.org)) and the Chairperson of the House and Grounds Council ([Houseandgrounds@towsonuuc.org](mailto:Houseandgrounds@towsonuuc.org)) if you do. It may affect our plans for snow removal.

Please use your best judgement and be safe!





1710 Dulaney Valley Road  
Lutherville MD 21093-9705  
Phone: 410-825-6045  
Email: [churchoffice@towsonuuc.org](mailto:churchoffice@towsonuuc.org)  
Website: [www.towsonuuc.org](http://www.towsonuuc.org)  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 10AM—3PM

### **Minister**

Reverend Clare L. Petersberger  
[revclare@towsonuuc.org](mailto:revclare@towsonuuc.org)

### **Leadership**

#### *Board of Trustees:*

President: Neil Porter (2019-2020)  
President-Elect: Sue Royer (2019-2020)  
Treasurer: Monica Sweidel (2019-2021)  
Secretary: Angela Castillo-Epps (2018-2020)

#### *Trustees-at-Large:*

Karyn Marsh (2018-2020)  
Art Starr (2018-2020)  
John Mattingly (2019-2021)  
Samantha Saalfield (2019-2021)

### **Administrative Team**

Head of Staff: Rev. Clare Petersberger  
Finance: Joseph Tumbler  
House and Grounds: Todd Robertson  
Church Administrator: Kai Aiyetoro

### **Program Committee**

Convener: Sue Royer  
Communications: Patty Barry

### **Ministerial Intern**

Lora Powell-Haney  
[lpowellhaney@meadville.edu](mailto:lpowellhaney@meadville.edu)

### **Staff**

#### Youth Religious Exploration Director:

Joyce Duncan, Credentialed Religious Educator  
[tuucdre@towsonuuc.org](mailto:tuucdre@towsonuuc.org)

#### Music Director:

Tracy Hall  
[music@towsonuuc.org](mailto:music@towsonuuc.org)

#### Church Administrator:

Kai Aiyetoro  
[churchoffice@towsonuuc.org](mailto:churchoffice@towsonuuc.org)

#### Administrative Assistant:

Nancy Hannah  
[assistant@towsonuuc.org](mailto:assistant@towsonuuc.org)