



The Threshold

Towson Unitarian
Universalist Church

A Welcoming Congregation

What does it mean to be a people of liberation?

April 12, 2020 10:30 AM

**Rev. Clare L. Petersberger, Joyce Duncan,
Lora Powell Haney, Tracy Hall: - *i thank
You God for most this amazing day***

This title is taken from a poem by e. e. cummings who was the son of a Unitarian minister. This Easter, in the midst of COVID-19, when we know the feelings of the women who went to the tomb all too well, we celebrate the practice of gratitude as a form of spiritual liberation.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/359320014>

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,359320014# US (New York)

NEED HELP WITH ZOOM!

Contact Kat at zoommtgs@towsonuuc.org

**Watch TUUC website
for updated information!
www.towsonuuc.org**

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

We wish you a very happy Easter, Passover, or Ostara. All these holidays reflect the resilience of people and the earth as they deal with hardship. The Family Gathering this week will continue the theme of resilience by sharing songs and stories of the resilience of the earth and how the earth sustains all its inhabitants. Please visit the TUUC website to find the link for the video on the main page and/or the calendar.

We continue to offer stories and music every week; please join us soon for any of these get togethers!

Parents, please note that the links for Zoom meetings for 4th-6th grade, 7th-grade, and YRUU will be sent Sunday morning directly before the meeting starts.

Here is the link for the next story time, which will be on Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/894494219>

Meeting ID: 894 494 219

NEWS ABOUT US



THANKING NANCY HANNAH FOR HER FOURTEEN YEARS SERVING AS TUUC'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For the past fourteen years, when you called our church you might hear the warm and professional greeting, "Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, Nancy speaking."

Nancy Hannah has tendered her resignation as our Administrative Assistant effective April 11 and will continue to be an active member of TUUC (and continue to sing in the Choir) as her health permits. If you would like to send your gratitude and good wishes,

you may still use Nancy's e-mail address: assistant@towsonuuc.org.

We are so grateful for Nancy's years of dedicated service as our Administrative Assistant! She welcomed newcomers and answered their questions; produced the weekly order of service (even when some did not meet the deadline); and assembled and edited our weekly newsletter (even when some did not meet the deadline for submissions). She did so with determination, thoughtfulness, creativity, attention to detail, energy, and good cheer.

What you might not have seen Nancy doing was generating name tags for visitors and friends and entering their information in our data base; creating lists of paintings and prices for Gallery Unicorn; organizing monitors for rentals; sending reminders to volunteers for Sunday morning roles; taking notes and sending out minutes from staff meetings; welcoming potential renters; coaxing the copier to work; watering the plants in the Meeting Room; addressing and putting stamps on the newsletters that got mailed; and driving to TUUC when there was a need to turn off the alarm or meet repair people for the furnace.

Whatever needed to be done in a given day at TUUC, Nancy did, even if it meant staying late or showing up at odd hours. Her loyalty and devotion to TUUC is a paragon.

What you would not have seen is Nancy handing the minister a David Brooks column she had clipped from the New York Times or an editorial from the Baltimore Sun because she thought they would be good resources for worship, for ministry, and for life. Nor would you have seen the treats she baked for members of the staff team at the holidays or the personal cards she selected for their birthdays.

In January, to mark TUUC's 60th anniversary, Nancy shared how *"the church is first the people, the givers and collectors of memories that bind us together as a congregation, and as human beings."*

In her role as TUUC's Administrative Assistant, Nancy gave her mind, heart, and soul to supporting and caring for the people of TUUC. Nancy, on behalf of TUUC, thank you for your years of service and for all the good memories you gave and collected! We love you!

---Rev. Clare

NEWS ABOUT US

We regret to inform you of the death of Cynthia Saalfield on March 29, 2020.

Cynthia moved from Arkansas to Edenwald in Towson in September 2018 to be closer to her daughter Samantha and son-in-law, Nick.

Cynthia was a dedicated member of our Soul Matters Sharing Circle.

She enjoyed Ethnic luncheons, participating in the Singles Group, and being a member of the TUUC Women's Lunch Bunch at Edenwald.

In the past year, she went on a Roads Scholar trip of the Great Lakes and attended her 60th

high school reunion.

A celebration of Cynthia's life will be scheduled when we can gather once again.

Messages of condolence may be sent to Samantha and Nick. Their contact information is in Breeze.

A teacher by vocation, Cynthia was a lifelong religious seeker.

Her keen and curious mind, warm and caring heart, quick wit, and strong commitment to moral issues such as reproductive justice will be greatly missed! ---Rev. Clare

TUUC PROGRAMMING WILL CONTINUE IN VIRTUAL SPACE

Spice is offering a music experience for young children. Join us this Friday, April 10, 4 - 4:30 pm. Here is the link for Music with Spice:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://zoom.us/j/193303940>

Meeting ID: 193 303 940



VESPER SERVICES

Starting April 6, TUUC will be holding vesper services online via Zoom. A vesper service is a short service that includes music, meditation/prayer, and readings, but no sermon. They are meant to provide time for reflection in an otherwise busy week. All are welcome.

The first vesper service will be at 7:00 pm on April 6. Drop in by clicking on this link: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/696348175>.

TUUC WILL REMAIN IN VIRTUAL SPACE THROUGH AT LEAST MAY 3

As we moved to physical distancing in mid-March, the leadership decided we would revisit our decision in early April. It has become clear, with the Maryland public schools remaining closed through the end of April, that we will remain in virtual space as a congregation through May 3. We will revisit whether to open after May 3 at the end of April. ---The TUUC A-Team

TECHNICAL USHERS

Are you interested in joining the team of Technical Ushers for our Sunday virtual worship services? This role involves being a co-host on Zoom, and taking care of one or more responsibilities during the service, such as greeting people, turning off participant video (to save bandwidth for the entire meeting),



keeping people muted, showing the slides, or reading aloud contributions in the chat. You should be comfortable with Zoom and technology and be willing to attend a rehearsal on Thursday at 6 pm as well as join the Zoom meeting 15 minutes early on Sunday morning.

To volunteer, please contact our Church Administrator, Kai Aiyetoro, at churchoffice@towsonuuc.org.

GREAT IDEAS DISCUSSION, FRIDAY, 11:00 AM - NOON

Several TUUC members and friends expressed an interest in a virtual conversation on Great Ideas. We began Friday, April 3, at 11 a.m. with an exploration of Existentialism. Specifically, we will reflect on questions about the meaning of existence raised in Albert Camus' 1947 novel, *The Plague*. Future great ideas to be discussed will be brainstormed at this meeting.

LET'S CELEBRATE 20 YEARS!



On Sunday morning April 26th we will be celebrating Reverend Clare's 20th year at TUUC. As we plan the service, which will be delivered remotely using

Zoom, the Committee on Ministry is developing a pictorial history of Clare's ministry. In that spirit, if you have a digital or digitized picture involving Reverend Clare that you would like to share, please email it to: specialevents@towsonuuc.org with the subject line Clare's 20th.



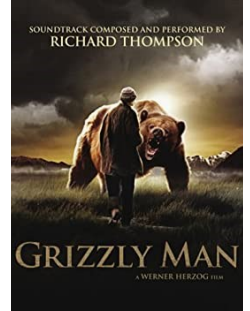
CABIN FEVER

Week of April 6—GRIZZLY MAN

In this thought-provoking documentary, Werner Herzog explores the life and death of Timothy Treadwell, who spent his time living and interacting with grizzlies in Alaska—until one bear killed him. A fascinating look at man's relationship with nature.

(Available on Amazon Prime. Rated R.)

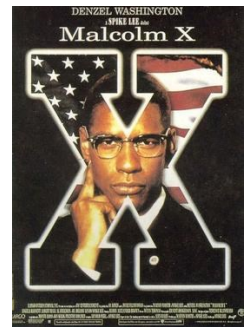
Message Board: <https://cabinfevertuuc.freeforums.net/thread/5/grizzly-man>



Week of April 13—MALCOLM X

Denzel Washington stars in Spike Lee's masterpiece biopic about the controversial Black icon. This powerful film follows Malcolm from his childhood until his assassination, offering lots of food for thought. (Available on Netflix. Rated PG-13.)

Message Board: TBA



VIRTUAL BYLAWS LISTENING SESSION

The Board has been in the process of revising the Bylaws. The proposed revisions to Articles 2 and 3 were sent out via email to the Congregation in February. Proposed revisions to Articles 7 and 9 were sent out via email to the Congregation on April 1. The Bylaws Listening Sessions, scheduled for March 22, were cancelled due to COVID-19. Instead, the Board will be holding a virtual listening session on **Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 pm** via Zoom. <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/966312967> At the session, we will entertain questions and comments

regarding the proposed Bylaws changes. You can also email your comments and questions to secretary@towsonuuc.org.

PASSING THE PLATE

We are committed to being a spiritual community in virtual space during this crisis and we need your financial support. This includes paying our ongoing financial commitments to our vendors and staff who are continuing to work remotely.

Renewing your pledge is more important than ever and now may be done online here: <https://www.towsonuuc.org/2021-pledge-form>

How to contribute though Breeze

Paying your pledge or making contributions can be easily sent through Breeze through this link: <https://tuucdatabase.breezechms.com/give/online>

How to text your contribution or pledge

Send a text to: 410-834-0700 and indicate where you want your contribution to go by entering one of the commands to get your contribution to the right fund.

Here are examples:



PayPal Contributions

You may use PayPal to pay your pledge to treasurer@towsonuuc.org.

Mail Contributions

You may still mail checks to the church. Mail is checked weekly.

**ZOOM SUNDAY SERVICE
ATTENDANCE REPORT**
(Does not reflect actual number of people watching)

Date	Time	Adults/Children
4/5/2020	10:30 AM	117

Command	Description
\$50	Donates \$50 to TUUC. Users can type any amount; the dollar sign is optional (e.g. \$50 and 50 both work).
give \$50	Same as above.
give	Your text giving number will respond asking "how much you'd like to give".
Here are our customized fund keywords:	
\$50 plate	Donates \$50 to the plate fund.
\$50 2019-20	Donates \$50 to 2019-20 pledge
\$50 2020-21	Donates \$50 to 2020-21 pledge
\$10 ODB	Donates \$10 to Our Daily Bread
\$50 Charitable	Donates \$50 to Charitable Contributions
\$50 Hospitality	Donates \$50 to Hospitality Fund
\$50 General Fund	Donates \$50 to General Operations
Note: Donors can only give to one fund at a time, but can donate several times separately.	
\$50 weekly	Sets up a recurring gift of \$50 each week. Frequency options are 'weekly', 'biweekly', 'monthly', and 'yearly'.
\$50 plate weekly	Sets up a recurring gift of \$50 each week to the plate fund. Frequency options are 'weekly', 'biweekly', 'monthly', and 'yearly'.
update	Allows you to update your payment method or recurring gift. Your text giving number will respond with a link where users can make these changes. To change from credit card to a bank account, click on the current option and change.

ACTC - FEEDING PEOPLE WHO ARE HUNGRY

With the Church being closed, we won't be donating food to the Assistance Center for Towson Churches. Families with food insecurity and people who are homeless continue to need food. During this period, please consider



donating to them directly on their website:

www.actconline.info/Participate.html

You can use charge cards, debit cards, or other through their DONATE/PayPal link.

This may go on quite a long time, so you may wish to help further by making your donation monthly. ---Lorraine Sorbello

ZOOM MEETING TUTORIALS

Not familiar with Zoom? Many of us have a learning curve with this online platform, but don't let that stop you from joining the congregation as we continue to be TUUC virtually. Here are a couple of short YouTube tutorials on how to use it:

How to Use Zoom on your phone:

<https://youtu.be/V8JaUEORjSo>

How to use Zoom on your computer:

<https://youtu.be/fMUxzrgZvZQ>

Sign up for FREE and download the app for phone or computer at <https://zoom.us/>

Committee Leaders, once you have signed up for you Free Zoom account, you may schedule your meetings as usual. Now the free accounts only allow meetings to last 40 minutes which should be plenty of time for an efficient meeting. But if that is not enough time for your meeting, schedule two meetings back to back. Take a short break and let everyone know that the meeting will continue with the next invite.

Send your meeting information to churchoffice@towsonuuc.org so it may be uploaded to the calendar if it is an open meeting.



#GetUsPPE

If you have extra personal protective equipment to share, this organization is gratefully accepting donations:

<http://www.getusppe.org>

EARL'S PLACE UPDATE

As we all practice social distancing many of us may be feeling anxiety and frustration. Now think about if you were experiencing homelessness and facing this crisis. Risk factors are compounded for those who stay in communal living areas. While we cannot increase the number of men we assist at either Earl's Place or Prospect Place, we can continue to provide a safe place for our residents to remain as healthy as possible.

The staff and I continue to work with the men. We are encouraging hand washing and all the other protocols to help prevent the COVID-19 virus between us or the wider community. **Thank you to everyone who has reached out to us to check on us and to see what we need.** If you are able to make a cash donation, the funds will be used to continue our daily operations. In-kind donations of nonperishable food items are also helpful. Thank you for being a part of our family. Together, we are changing lives. You can find more information and our wish lists on our website, cchbaltimore.org or by calling me at 410-522-0225.



Gratefully,
Sheila Helgerson

ADORE VIRTUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm via Zoom

Topic: In the Pink: How Racism Impacts Health and Health Care

"In the pink" is an old expression meaning that one is in good health and spirits. But what if one isn't, well, pink? Since the revelation of the Tuskegee experiments, in which US Public Health Service officials tracked the health of 600 rural black men in Alabama with syphilis for 40 years, without giving them a diagnosis or treatment, African Americans have had reasons to mistrust the medical establishment. Even today, African Americans and other people of color are often treated differently by their doctors and hospitals. Our A Dialog on Race and Ethnicity (ADORE) group will be discussing some of these differences in treatment and outcomes.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/218633181>

Meeting ID: 218 633 181

Or dial in: 301-715-8592; 312-626-6799;

646-558-8656; 346-248-7799;

669-900-9128 ; 253-215-8782

Meeting ID: 218 633 181

PHISHING SCAM

Please do NOT respond to an e-mail entitled "Blessings," ostensibly from me, with a Gmail address. It is not a legitimate e-mail address; I did not send it. It is a phishing e-mail. I have alerted Gmail to this fraudulent activity.

Many UU congregations are being hit with this phishing scam impersonating the Minister's e-mail address. Please, please know I would never solicit money from you personally through an e-mail. Never. Ever. Ever!

I am grateful to the TUUC members who reached out to alert me to this scam. If you ever receive an e-mail (ostensibly from me) that asks you to send money to a third party, please ignore it and let me know!---Rev. Clare

NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE AND CALL FOR CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee is currently contacting members about serving in lay leadership positions. We invite those of you who may be interested in serving to contact a member of the committee to learn more about the role and responsibilities. The following positions are expected to be up for election at the June 14 annual meeting:

Board of Trustees:

President – Sue Royer

President-Elect

Treasurer

Secretary

Trustee-At-Large (2)

Endowment Committee:

Member (2)

Nominating Committee:

Member (2)

Moderator

In addition, we are looking for a candidate to serve as Finance Head, which is an appointed volunteer position and a member of the Administrative Team.

Our goal is to identify interested and qualified candidates for all of these positions by early May. The members of the Nominating Committee are: George Harrison (chair), Ann Beezley, Dominique Hall, Marie Razulis, and Sue Royer (Board liaison). Contact information is in Breeze.



SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP HAPPY HOUR Saturday, April 18, at 4 pm.

The group will have a happy hour chat in virtual space. 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.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/107139794>

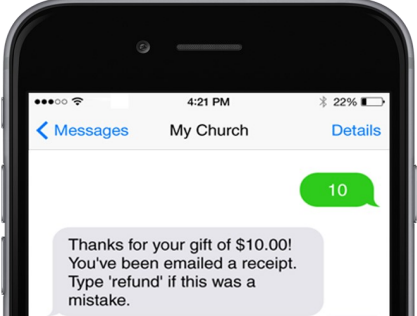
Meeting ID: 107 139 794

Please call Ronald Rowley to RSVP and to get

more information. He is listed in the church directory.

DONATE BY TEXT

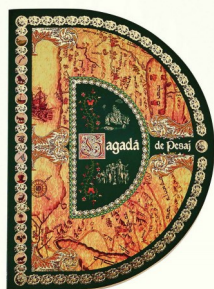
Send an amount to
(410)834-0700



Fund Names:

- 2019-20
- 2020-21
- Plate
- ODB
- Charitable
- Hospitality
- General Fund

SEDER AT TUUC



The TUUC virtual Seder will take place on ZOOM on Saturday, April 11, at 4PM. It will take around an hour and a half and will include additional time for those who want to stay and talk

about the experience. For security reasons, the conference will be locked around 4:10.

We ask that you register for the Seder by sending an email to Steve Finner, whose email address is in Breeze. When you do, a .pdf. copy of the script, called a Haggadah will be emailed to you which you may print. The Haggadah will also be displayed on your screen during the Seder.

Following is the zoom invitation. If you are unfamiliar with zoom, we suggest you click on the link below and orient yourself before the Seder. This can be done at any time.

Topic: TUUC Passover Seder

Time: Apr 11, 2020 04:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/200454854>

Meeting ID: 200 454 854

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,200454854# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,200454854# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

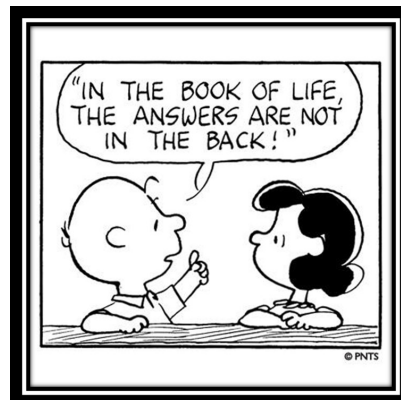
Meeting ID: 200 454 854

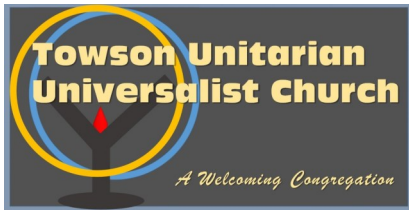
Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adatJruuTf>

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar at www.towsonuuc.org for most current schedule.

10 April	Friday	Great Ideas Discussion Group	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/666875374	11:00 AM
10 April	Friday	Music with Spice (all ages)	https://zoom.us/j/193303940	4:00 PM
11 April	Saturday	Passover Seder	https://zoom.us/j/200454854	4:00 PM
12 April	Sunday	Sunday Service & Coffee Hour	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/359320014	10:30 AM
13 April	Monday	Vesper Services	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/696348175	7:00 PM
13 April	Monday	Membership Meeting	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/6517158759	7:30 PM
14 April	Tuesday	Virtual Coffee & Tea w/Rev.	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/467202356	12:00 PM
14 April	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circle	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/341125887	7:30 PM
14 April	Tuesday	Storytelling	https://zoom.us/j/894494219	7:30 PM
15 April	Wednesday	Soul Matters Mornings	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2267305075?pwd=c1AxMTlCWlIGMFBBeM5vWDlXT0d2Zz09	8:30 AM
15 April	Wednesday	Board Meeting	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/270378169	7:30 PM
16 April	Thursday	Virtual Coffee & Tea w/Rev.	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/629474885	4:00 PM
16 April	Thursday	Zoom Rehearsal	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/859624039	6:00 PM
16 April	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/706106021?pwd=ZW9RS2k0ZVAvZjhyS1h5c2V4cmJOUT09	7:30 PM
17 April	Friday	Great Ideas Discussion Group	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/666875374	11:00 AM
17 April	Friday	Sing with Spice for Young Children	https://zoom.us/j/193303940	4:00 PM
18 April	Saturday	Committee on Ministry	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/2595416929	10:00 AM
18 April	Saturday	TUUC Singles Happy Hour	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/107139794	4:00 PM





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

Minister

Reverend Clare L. Petersberger
revclare@towsonuuc.org

Leadership

Board of Trustees:

President: Neil Porter (2019-2020)
President-Elect: Sue Royer (2019-2020)
Treasurer: TBD (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: Vacant
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

Staff

Youth Religious Exploration Director:

Joyce Duncan, Credentialed Religious Educator
tuucdre@towsonuuc.org

Music Director:

Tracy Hall
music@towsonuuc.org

Church Administrator:

Kai Aiyetoro
churchoffice@towsonuuc.org

Administrative Assistant:

Nancy Hannah
assistant@towsonuuc.org

Bookkeeper:

Raly Baltchev
bookkeeper@towsonuuc.org