



**The
Threshold**

**Towson Unitarian
Universalist Church**

A Welcoming Congregation

What does it mean to be a people of liberation?

April 19, 2020 10:30 AM
The Green Sanctuary
Committee, Jennifer Kunze,
Spice Kleinmann: *Celebration*
of Earth Day - Climate Change
and Environmental Justice



In honor of the 50th Earth Day, we will celebrate the importance of biodiversity, positive and attainable steps to address global warming, and how communities across Maryland can get to zero waste.

NEED HELP WITH ZOOM!

Contact Kat at zoommtgs@towsonuuc.org



VESPER SERVICES

TUUC is 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 vesper service will be at 7:00 pm on Mondays. Drop in by clicking on this link: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/696348175>.

TUUC IS CONTINUING IN VIRTUAL SPACE

The A-Team voted to open the building of TUUC for the American Red Cross to hold a blood drive on May 2nd. There is a critical shortage of blood at this time. Thanks to Clare Flynn-Avallone and Jay Hauf for working with the American Red Cross.

However, TUUC as a spiritual community, will continue in virtual space until we learn from health authorities that it is safe to congregate again. So please check the calendar on the TUUC website for opportunities to engage with members and friends in virtual space.

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

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS CONTINUE AT TUUC

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

We began by discussing existentialism. Then Mike Robinson guided us in an exploration of courage and Tillich's "The Courage To Be." This week, we turn to E. M. Forster's epigraph "Only Connect." What does connection mean to Forster? What does it mean to us in a virtual world? Join us by clicking on:

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/666875374>

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.

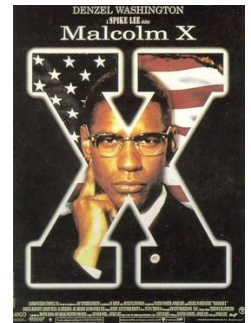
If you would like to contribute to the expenses for the celebration: gifts for Rev. Clare, donations are being accepted. You may donate online through Breeze (indicate Rev Clare 20th in the comments), or by mailing a check to TUUC, with Rev Clare 20th in the memo area of the check.

CABIN FEVER

To receive regular updates on Cabin Fever and to participate in our discussions, please join the TUUC Movies Email Group! Request to join by emailing: churchoffice@towsonuuc.org.

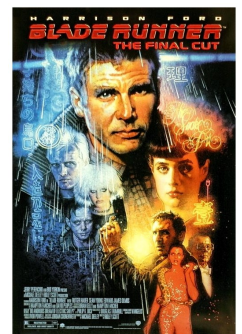
WEEK OF APRIL 13—MALCOLM X

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.)



Week of April 20—BLADE RUNNER (The Final Cut)

Harrison Ford stars in Ridley Scott's sci-fi classic. Four escaped "Replicants" are on the loose, and Ford is sent to terminate them. (Available on Netflix. Rated R.)



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 through 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.

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.



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.

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

ZOOM FOR BEGINNERS

If you haven't yet set up Zoom and would like assistance, please call the church office at 410-825-6045 and leave a message.

Messages are being checked. We have volunteers who will speak with you on the phone and provide assistance.

It is necessary to download software on your computer to run Zoom. Go to zoom.us and follow the instructions. If you want to access Zoom on a smart phone or a tablet, you will need to download the app.

For any Zoom meeting, you have the option of calling in instead of joining on a computer. There are multiple numbers and any of the numbers can be used. The Meeting ID (and password if one is required) are the key.

Here are some of the Zoom numbers (try any of these):

[301-715-8592](tel:3017158592) or [312-626-6799](tel:3126266799) or [646-558-8656](tel:6465588656) or [346-248-7799](tel:3462487799) or [669-900-9128](tel:6699009128) or [253-215-8782](tel:2532158782)

After you install Zoom on your computer, this video created by a UUA staff member has useful information on how to use it:

<https://vimeo.com/397678793>

Remember that you don't need to turn on your own video/camera. If you are more comfortable without your camera on, that's okay. We do ask that you identify yourself by name when joining worship or a program on Zoom.

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.

NEWCOMER WELCOME HOUR

MAY 19, 7:30 PM

Are you spiritually curious and want to know more about Unitarian Universalism or TUUC? Have you been seeking a space to explore your spirituality while being in community? During this virtual session, we welcome newcomers as well as long-time members to drop in for a free-form exploration of spirituality and community in a UU context. No registration is required, but if you have questions either about this session or TUUC, please email: membership@towsonuuc.org .

Topic: Newcomer Welcome Hour

Time: May 19, 2020 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96823223784>

Meeting ID: 968 2322 3784

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 968 2322 3784

ZOOM TIPS FOR MEETING HOSTS



After you start the meeting, assign one or more co-hosts to help you manage the meeting. For larger meetings, keep participants muted to reduce background noise and distractions. Reading in unison or singing in unison doesn't work due to lag time. The leader reads or sings

and participants keep themselves muted while joining in. There is a 40-minute time limit on meetings on free Zoom accounts. When the meeting ends, everyone can rejoin to continue the meeting, using the same Zoom Meeting ID.

Using a computer and in your account settings, these are the recommended settings:

1. New meetings should have passwords.
2. Disable join before host.
3. Enable waiting room.
4. Disable screen share for anyone but host.
5. Disable file transfer.
6. Disable annotation on the screen.

BLOOD DRIVE

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Saturday, May 2nd, 2020 for the next TUUC Blood Drive. There is a critical need for blood right now but we are also in a different time with social distancing and COVID-19 disease prevention. We at TUUC strongly encourage anyone that has ANY reservation about giving blood at this time for ANY reason to please sit this one out. We will get past this and will have more blood drives in the future for you to participate in. Please only join us on May 2nd, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating. To sign up for an appointment time between 8:00am -2:00pm please use this [link](#) OR email Clare Flynn-Avallone (see Breeze database) with your preferred times.

Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!"



**American
Red Cross**

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

The Family Gathering this week helps us to find resilience in humor. Please visit the TUUC website to find the link for the video on the main page and/or the calendar.

We continue to offer story time every week; please join us soon. We will continue these as long as there is interest in them. 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. The info is the same every week because they are recurring meetings.

We are not offering Music for Young Children currently as there was not enough interest. Please join Spice instead at 7:30 pm Saturday. She will share family favorites for the first 30 minutes if children show up. See calendar for Zoom info.

Here is the link for the next story time, which will be on Tuesday, April 21, 7:30 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/89449421>

Meeting ID: 894 494 219

DENOMINATIONAL MINUTE

This week's denominational minute comes from the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all, disrupting our previously normal lives, forcing us to take precautions, and isolating us from one another. It has impacted our livelihoods and finances, schools and careers, and even our entertainment and social activities. How we deal with it now will determine how we live after it has passed. Will we make the necessary personal sacrifices to slow its spread, keep ourselves and other safe, and provide the needed resources for our health providers and other essential workers? Will we remain in community with our fellow human beings to serve our mutual needs and help others survive and thrive? Will we hold our elected officials accountable for their leadership and maintain our democratic institutions, including assuring that free, fair elections are held in 2020?

While we are all stressed by the pandemic's dangers, it has also provided us with

opportunities, and we should seize them with enthusiasm. We now have many chances to show generosity by contributing our time and/or resources to support groups fighting the virus and providing for those with specific needs for food, shelter, education, and mental/emotional support. We are also often reminded of the value in reaching out to friends and family to offer support and comfort. These are things we can all do to weather the immediate crisis. But there is more that we can do.

While the pandemic peaks and subsides (as it will undoubtedly do), we can act now to shape the world on the other side of it. We can work to assure that our democracy survives as well. The 2020 election campaigns have been dramatically curtailed, with candidates suspending all gatherings and door-to-door canvassing, and even primary elections have been postponed due to possible exposures that could result from in-person voting. Efforts are underway to implement mail-only voting in many states, and campaigns are scrambling to find ways of

reaching prospective voters remotely. This has been happening on a state-by-state basis, with no national strategy yet devised.

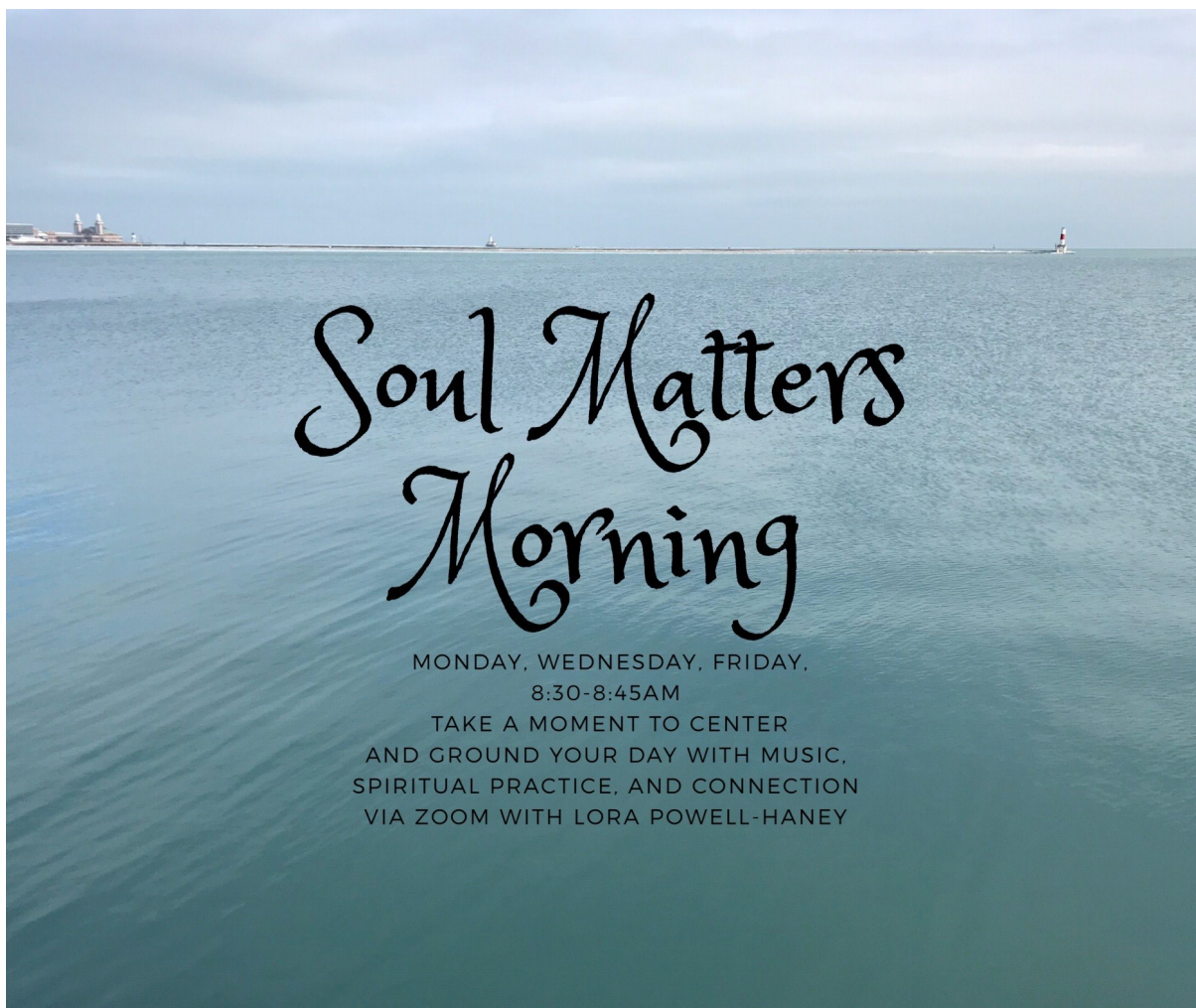
In spite of the virus' restrictions, we believe it is time to seize the moment and take strong action to shape the November election. Our goal is to enlist Maryland UUs in a sustained effort to increase the numbers of people voting for candidates who support our values and positions on issues. We ask that you join us in this important effort.

We know that many Maryland congregations are already working on UU the Vote activities, and we are asking local leaders to join our team to help coordinate and support efforts throughout the state (and in neighboring states as well) by filling out this

[congregational survey](#). You can join our Democracy Task Force [here](#), to get plugged into what is happening, help guide our work, and provide messaging, materials and support for congregations. You can join our Facebook group [here](#). Please note, you may have to like our page before you can join the group. Facebook groups are a good way for you to share events, articles and happenings in your congregational area.

Finding ways of building online community and connection is an essential tool for our UU the Vote work, especially in this time of physical distancing. UULM-MD is planning to host regular statewide calls for Unitarian Universalists in Maryland who are working on voting rights and advocacy.

[Join our Democracy 2020 Task Force](#)



*Soul Matters
Morning*

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY,
8:30-8:45AM

TAKE A MOMENT TO CENTER
AND GROUND YOUR DAY WITH MUSIC,
SPIRITUAL PRACTICE, AND CONNECTION
VIA ZOOM WITH LORA POWELL-HANEY



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 find her current contact information in Breeze.](#)

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!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

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

17 April	Friday	Great Ideas Discussion Group	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/666875374	11:00 AM
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
18 April	Saturday	Singing with Spice	https://zoom.us/j/98268492990?pwd=T1E1Q0ZEL0R5RE9xL0tzSllakK5dz09	7:30 PM
19 April	Sunday	Sunday Service & Coffee Hour	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/359320014	10:30 AM
19 April	Sunday	Newcomer Welcome Hour	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96823223784	7:30 PM
20 April	Monday	Vesper Services	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/696348175	7:00 PM
21 April	Tuesday	Virtual Coffee & Tea w/Rev.	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/467202356	12:00 PM
21 April	Tuesday	Storytelling	https://zoom.us/j/894494219	7:30 PM
22 April	Wednesday	Soul Matters Mornings	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2267305075?pwd=clAxMTICWlIGMFBBemYvWDlXT0d2Zz09	8:30 AM
23 April	Thursday	Virtual Coffee & Tea w/Rev.	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/629474885	4:00 PM
23 April	Thursday	Zoom Rehearsal	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/321009235	6:00 PM
23 April	Thursday	Lay Worship Associates	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/306923928	7:00 PM
23 April	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/706106021?pwd=ZW9RS2k0ZVAvZjhyS1h5c2V4cmJOUT09	7:30 PM
24 April	Friday	Great Ideas Discussion Group	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/666875374	11:00 AM
26 April	Sunday	Sunday Service & Coffee Hour	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/359320014	10:30 AM
27 April	Monday	Vesper Services	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/696348175	7:00 PM
28 April	Tuesday	Virtual Coffee & Tea w/Rev.	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/467202356	12:00 PM
28 April	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circle	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/341125887	7:30 PM
28 April	Tuesday	Storytelling	https://zoom.us/j/894494219	7:30 PM
29 April	Wednesday	Soul Matters Mornings	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2267305075?pwd=clAxMTICWlIGMFBBemYvWDlXT0d2Zz09	8:30 AM
30 April	Thursday	Virtual Coffee & Tea w/Rev.	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/629474885	4:00 PM
30 April	Thursday	Zoom Rehearsal	https://uuma.zoom.us/j/859624039	6:00 PM
30 April	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/706106021?pwd=ZW9RS2k0ZVAvZjhyS1h5c2V4cmJOUT09	7:30 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

Don't Work Sick
Don't School Sick
Don't Church Sick

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

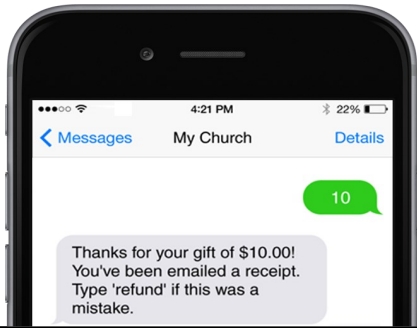
Program Committee

Convener: Sue Royer
 Communications: Patty Barry

DONATE BY TEXT
 Send an amount to
(410)834-0700

Fund Names:

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



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

Date	Time	Adults/Children
4/12/2020	10:30 AM	142

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

Bookkeeper:

Raly Baltchev
bookkeeper@towsonuuc.org

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