



## The Threshold

Towson Unitarian  
Universalist Church  
*A Welcoming Congregation*

### What does it mean to be a people of deep imagination?

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021 - 10:30 AM**

**ANDREW HAGER, LAY WORSHIP ASSOCIATE: *PICTURE YOURSELF IN A BOAT ON A RIVER...***

As we ponder what it means to be a people of imagination, lay worship associate Andrew Hager (with more than a little help from Tony Bonta and friends) explores the psychedelic side of the Beatles. While we navigate the uncertain waters of our current national crises, we'll explore how four lads from Liverpool met similar unease with some of their most joyous (and bizarre) music.

#### **YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION**

Sunday Morning Classes continue! Our faith asks us to use our reason to question what is and imagine new ways to think about things. It's part of our fifth UU Source, "...heed the guidance of reason and the results of science..." Sometimes people think of science and imagination as opposites, but every good scientist will tell you that you need both imagination and reason to understand the world and to invent new things. So, what's one of the ways our faith guides us into becoming a people of imagination? It tells us "Use imagination and reason as partners to think outside the box!" Those with children in Kindergarten through 7th grade are invited to join us at 9 am on Sunday to learn more about this in a family meeting followed by breakout classes.

Our *Parenting in a Pandemic* virtual meeting series continues on Thursday nights at 8:30 - 9:30 pm (Jan 28 and Feb 4). Parents, grandparents, and all caregivers are invited to join us for one or more of these.

I hope your family can participate in *Teddies and Friends at TUUC* by entrusting a stuffed friend to us for a weekend of fun at TUUC, to be enjoyed through Facebook posts and in the story for all ages on Sunday, February 7 during the 10:30 am service. See the longer description in the Threshold and for more details contact Joyce at [tuucdre@towsonuuc.org](mailto:tuucdre@towsonuuc.org) or see the parent email.

## UPCOMING SERVICE INFORMATION

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 SERVICE INFORMATION

For Sunday, January 24, please join us at 10:15 am to be admitted prior to the service starting at 10:30. We will have break-out rooms for coffee and conversation following the service.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94076756905>

Meeting ID: 940 7675 6905

Passcode: 770789

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)



created by P. Evans



### TUUC BOOK CLUB

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3 AT 7:30 PM

MORE INFORMATION ON THE TUUC WEBSITE [HERE](#)



### VESPERS SERVICE

MONDAY, JANUARY 25 FROM 7-7:30 PM

### ONGOING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Contact facilitator in Breeze for meeting information or see the [church calendar](#).

#### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

2nd Sunday each month at noon

Facilitator: Lorraine Sorbello

#### COFFEE WITH THE MINISTER

Tuesdays 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Facilitator: Rev. Clare Petersberger

#### AGING TOGETHER

2nd Tuesday each month at 1:00 PM

Facilitator: Michael Magrogon

#### WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:30—9:00 PM

Facilitator: Jane D'Ambrogi

#### SOUL MATTERS

2nd & 4th Tuesdays 7:30—8:30 PM

Facilitator: Rev. Clare Petersberger

#### PROGRAM COUNCIL MEETING

2nd Wednesday each month at 7:30 PM

Facilitator: Andrew Hager

#### MEN'S REFLECTION GROUP

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:30—9:00 PM

Facilitator: Fred Sypher

#### TUUC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

3rd Wednesday each month at 7:30 PM

Facilitator: Sue Royer

#### MEN'S GROUP

2nd & 4th Thursdays 7:30—8:30 PM

Facilitator: Michael Magrogon

#### GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

1st Sunday each month at 12:00 PM

Facilitators: Carel Hedlund and Charlene Rossi

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT TUUC

### SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP HAPPY HOUR—SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 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. Please call Ronald Rowley to RSVP and to get more information. He is listed in the church directory.



### OPEN QUESTION LISTENING SESSION WITH THE BOARD—SUNDAY, JAN 24 AT 1 PM

Please join us on Sunday, January 24 at 1 pm for a virtual listening session with the Board on the following Open Question:

*What changes do we need to make to be more accessible to those living with disabilities or special needs?*

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82661997623?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82661997623?pwd=ejc3cnUremlxMmlnOVBkSzdMS2ZZQT09)

[pwd=ejc3cnUremlxMmlnOVBkSzdMS2ZZQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82661997623?pwd=ejc3cnUremlxMmlnOVBkSzdMS2ZZQT09)

Meeting ID: 826 6199 7623

Passcode: 727321

The Board of Trustees selected several Open Questions for dialog this church year. Open Questions are those about which we won't be making a decision soon. These give us an opportunity to reflect about the future as a congregation. The Board spent time brainstorming and discussing this question and wants to hear your thoughts. Please join us.

### ETHNIC LUNCH TIME—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 AT 12:30 PM

Ethnic Lunch is usually scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month, but we expect that people are going to be more interested in the inauguration than in food so we have moved the lunch to the following Wednesday, January 27 at 12:30. We continue gathering via Zoom to hear about foods from different cultures. For January Monica Sweidel is going to discuss a cuisine that is close to home, Tex-Mex. Learn what makes Tex-Mex different from Mexican and watch Monica demonstrate how to fix chicken fajitas.



We hope to continue discussions on foods from other cultures for the next several months. We are looking for volunteers to talk about recipes from their ethnic background or the food that they fell in love with while on a trip. Anyone who is interested in helping can send an email to [ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org](mailto:ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org). If you plan to join us, please RSVP at the same e-mail address.

## **SURVIVING THE PANDEMIC FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS— THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, AND FEBRUARY 4 FROM 8:30-9:30 PM**

We invite parents and caregivers to join us for a three-part series of virtual meetings for a facilitated conversation to help those with children of any age survive and thrive during the pandemic. The YRE Committee hopes you will join us for any or all of these meetings offered on two consecutive Thursdays, January 28, and February 4 from 8:30-9:30 pm. An RSVP if you plan to attend to [tuucdre@towsonuuc.org](mailto:tuucdre@towsonuuc.org) is appreciated but not necessary. Please invite others outside of TUUC to join us! Information on how to join these meetings will be available by emailing [tuucdre@towsonuuc.org](mailto:tuucdre@towsonuuc.org) and from the church calendar on the website. Zoom link is [here](#). Meeting ID: 893 3454 2985. Passcode: 015523

## **WIDENING THE CIRCLE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 FROM 1-2:30 PM**

The Commission on Institutional Change of the Unitarian Universalist Association invites us into dialogue on its comprehensive report on how to build anti-racist and multi-cultural congregations. You are invited to be part of this conversation! To prepare for this conversation, please go to

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening> and read the chapter on Congregation and Community. If you have any questions, please let me know. ---  
*Rev. Clare*



## **OUR MESSY LIVES UPDATE**

Our Messy Lives, the discussion group which focuses every other week on a provocative word, will be starting up again on Zoom on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 3-4 m and will continue to meet every other Thursday afternoon. We look forward to discussing “Resiliency” on the 11<sup>th</sup>. This is an open-ended group, so join us whenever you can. However, in order to receive the Zoom Link for each meeting, please contact Nancy Caswell, (email address can be found in Breeze) to be added to the e-mail list. Prior participants are already on the new list and will receive the Zoom link for each session. A big *thank you* to Art Starr for conceiving the idea of Our Messy Lives and for facilitating the group for the last several months! Much appreciated, Art!

## **WRITING YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY: SEEKING ZOOM VOLUNTEER**

Art Starr is seeking a Zoom volunteer to assist him with an upcoming group "Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography" starting on Friday, February 26 from 2 to 3 PM. Future meetings will occur on the second and fourth Fridays of the month. If you have access to a personal Zoom account and would be willing to assist as a technical co-host, please reach out to Art at [mensgroup@towsonuuc.org](mailto:mensgroup@towsonuuc.org). Thank you!



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN A VIRTUAL SOUL MATTERS SHARING CIRCLE?

Soul Matters Sharing Circles meet virtually on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to around 8:45 PM.



You will receive a packet that invites you to choose one of four spiritual exercises to practice to probe the spiritual theme of the month in more depth. The packet also includes readings, music, videos, and questions.

As a participant, you may expect to be part of a covenanted community of thoughtful and caring deep listeners and spiritual seekers. Please enroll by January 29 by emailing me at [revclare@towsonuuc.org](mailto:revclare@towsonuuc.org). This will give you time to practice one of the exercises before our meeting on February 9th. This second "semester" will run through the second Sunday of June. --- Rev. Clare

### UPDATE ON COVID-19

At virtual coffee hour on Sunday, some members shared they had already received the COVID-19 vaccine for their work. Some reported mild side effects which are expected as the body builds immunity to this new virus. These individuals were grateful to have received the vaccine. Vaccination is part of the path forward to re-opening our community. We will still need to wear masks to stop the spread. But there is genuine hope that we can reduce the number of serious cases and deaths from this virus.

Conversation during virtual coffee hour turned to how to make an appointment to be vaccinated. Many of us will be notified when it is our turn. Baltimore City has a website, but its only for making appointments and you have to be in the 1A group and there are no appointments left for January. Baltimore County residents who want to be vaccinated should complete [this form](#). Completing the registration request form does not create an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccination.

After completing the form, you will be contacted by County staff once you become eligible and when vaccines are available, with additional information about how to schedule your appointment. If you are unable to complete the form, please ask a friend, neighbor or family member for assistance. Please note: There is limited supply of vaccine nationwide. We will need to be patient. ---Rev. Clare

### TEDDIES AND FRIENDS AT TUUC

Recent studies confirm that stuffed animals cannot contract Covid 19! \* Who knew? Even though we cannot gather at Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, we can vicariously enjoy our teddy bears, stuffed cats, dogs, giraffes, dolphins, and any other creatures interacting in our favorite TUUC places, such as the meeting room, the nursery, the youth room, the sofas area, the playground, and the RE classrooms. Is your favorite plush friend ready for a change of scenery? If so, and if you can stand to be without them for



a week or so, please consider entrusting one of your stuffed friends to our care for a weekend of Beloved Community in our church home. You can be part of this by checking out Facebook posts over the weekend of February 6/7.

We are looking forward to seeing stuffed animals from those of all ages! Please label your friend with their name, your name, and contact information and drop off at TUUC porch on Saturday, January 30, between 11 and 12 noon. Email Joyce at [tuucdre@towsonuuc.org](mailto:tuucdre@towsonuuc.org) with any questions and for other ways to make a drop off. Make sure you are subscribed to the church Facebook posts to see this event unfold. *\*(American Journal of Plushology, Issue 1, Number 1.)*

## GET CONNECTED WITH BREEZE

Do you miss the TUUC paper directory? As a 21st century congregation quarantined due to COVID; it can be isolating if you cannot make contact with your fellow members and friends. We encourage you to sign up with the Breeze church database so you will have access to the most up to date contact information for all active members of TUUC. You can update your own contact information as needed and even check on your annual contributions. Check out this [video](#) to see how easy it is to sign up. Create an account [link](#).

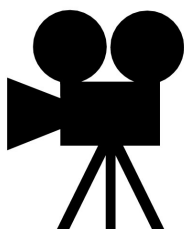
## POST-AUCTION SALES



Thanks to everyone who helped us celebrate TUUC's 60th Anniversary and make our *Diamond Jubilation!* Auction a big success! Some items from the 2020 TUUC Auction are still available for sale. Please check [Post-Auction Sales](#) on the TUUC Website for more information.

## Writing as a Spiritual Practice

A VIRTUAL DROP-IN GROUP  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 1:00 PM



## CABIN FEVER

THIS WEEK: "ONE NIGHT IN MIAMI" (2020)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 AT 4PM

MORE INFORMATION [HERE](#)





## TUUC SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

### FEEDING THE HUNGRY—OUR DAILY BREAD NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Our Daily Bread is Maryland's largest hot meal program, serving more than a quarter of a million meals to those experiencing hunger in Baltimore City each year. January has a fifth Saturday, and even though we aren't together to bring casseroles to TUUC or donate for one to be bought in your name, the hungry people of Baltimore need you to be generous. Please consider sending a check to: Our Daily Bread, 725 Fallsway, Baltimore, MD 21202



### FOOD DONATIONS TO ASSISTANCE CENTER OF TOWSON CHURCHES (ACTC)

Since we cannot make food donations in our lobby now, nonperishable food can be dropped off at these locations:

#### **Mondays, 12 to 2 PM:**

Ascension Lutheran Church parking lot (7601 York Rd.)

#### **Thursdays, 12 to 2 PM:**

Trinity Episcopal Church parking lot  
(120 Allegheny Ave.)

#### **Thursdays, 5 to 6 PM:**

Valley Baptist Church parking lot  
(1401 York Rd.)

You also may donate to Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC) by sending a check payable to TUUC with ACTC in memo line, or by donating directly to their website: <http://actconline.info/>.

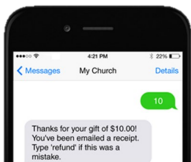


### AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$98.20

Thank you for choosing Towson UUC as your preferred charity with Amazon Smile! Every time you use the site with TUUC listed as your preferred charity, Amazon donates a small amount (0.5%) from your purchase to our church.

#### DONATE BY TEXT

Send an amount to  
(410)834-0700



## PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE

MORE INFORMATION ON THE TUUC WEBSITE [HERE](#)

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar [here](#) for most current schedule.

22 Jan	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
23 Jan	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Happy Hour	4:00 PM
23 Jan	Saturday	Cabin Fever: One Night in Miami	4:00 PM
24 Jan	Sunday	Family Meetings/Classes	9:00 AM
24 Jan	Sunday	Sunday Worship Service	10:30 AM
24 Jan	Sunday	Listening Session with the Board—Open Question	1:00 PM
25 Jan	Monday	Vespers	7:00 PM
26 Jan	Tuesday	Coffee with the Minister	12:00 PM
26 Jan	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
26 Jan	Tuesday	Soul Matters	7:30 PM
27 Jan	Wednesday	Ethnic Lunch	12:30 PM
28 Jan	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
28 Jan	Thursday	Parenting in Pandemic Times	8:30 PM

## TECHNICAL USHERS NEEDED



We are recruiting additional technical ushers. We want to rotate in one or two new ushers to give others a break. 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 20 minutes early on Sunday morning. To volunteer, please contact our Church Administrator at [churchoffice@towsonuuc.org](mailto:churchoffice@towsonuuc.org).

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

## ZOOM SUNDAY SERVICE ATTENDANCE REPORT

(Does not reflect actual number of people watching)

Date	Time	Adults/Children
01/17/2021	10:30 AM	86