



## What does it mean to be a people of beloved community?

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 - 10:30 AM**

**REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, STEVE FINNER: *LIVE LIFE WELL WITH LOVE***

Our hopes and dreams for a beloved community in our nation and the world are being challenged daily by the increases in words and acts of hate. What can our Universalist heritage contribute to an understanding of these challenges and does it offer possible solutions? Rev. Clare and Steve Finner will dialogue in what promises to be an exciting and interesting exchange.

### YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

On Valentine's Day, we exchange Valentines with people to show them we love them. It's easy to think about who we love - parents and grandparents, friends, our pets. What if we wanted to grow that love? We might think of what happens when you throw a stone into a pond. It makes circles, rippling outward bigger and bigger. We could grow love beyond boundaries like the ripples. What would those ripples be...? We will talk about this in the context of Beloved Community. Younger children will assemble a rainbow ripple of hearts while older children talk about "upstream thinking." Please join us at 9 am for a group meeting after which we will breakout into classes for Kindergarten through 4th grade and 5th through 7th grade.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 SERVICE INFORMATION

For Sunday, February 14, 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/93946673152>

Meeting ID: 939 4667 3152

Passcode: 283154

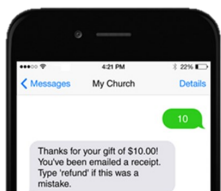


*Coffee with the  
Minister*  
Tuesdays at Noon



**VESPERS SERVICE**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
**7:00—7:30 PM**

## PASSING THE PLATE



### DONATE BY TEXT

Send an amount to  
**(410)834-0700**

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE

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

## CLARE'S COLLOQUY

What does it mean to be a people of beloved community?

What images of beloved community come to mind when you hear this question?

Do you see people gathered to worship; singing in the Choir; hearing the sorrows and joys that bind us together in the human condition; sharing a cup of fair trade coffee; dropping off meals to facilitate recovery and healing; asking "big questions and deeply listening to one another in religious exploration classes and support groups; collecting canned food; making casseroles; joining with other communities to care for the earth; answering the call to gather to witness to the need for justice?

The poet Forrest Hamer remembers the black church of his childhood and writes of the organist:

*"when the sermon had been made...  
We waited for the moment his fingers spoke in their tongues,  
listened for the urgent translation into this:  
We have returned to a blessed place;  
Our family is here with us, even the dead and not-born;  
We are journeying to the source of all wonder...  
Amen"*

I love Hamer's vision that Beloved Community includes the dead and not born....journeying to the source of all wonder.

This month will reflect on the practice of Beloved Community. One of these practices is stewardship, financially supporting our congregation's mission to deepen our spiritual and ethical lives by working for racial, social, and environmental justice.

We will be hearing from one another what TUUC means to us. We will be hearing things that really matters to us about our practice of Beloved Community. And we will be hearing our hopes for what TUUC will mean to the wider community in the year to come.

It has been almost a year since we moved into virtual space because of Covid-19. We miss seeing each other in person. Yet we know how much we need one another and that our affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person and the free and responsible search for truth and meaning have never been more important.

As we consider #Beloved Community and #Commitment and make our pledge to TUUC, may we remember that when we gather together, like Forrest Hamer, "We return to a blessed place; our family is here with us, even the dead and not-born; we are journeying to the source of all wonder. Amen!"



**TUUC POST AUCTION  
SALE—ITEMS STILL  
AVAILABLE!**



**EQUAL EXCHANGE SALE  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13  
FROM 10:30 AM—NOON**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT TUUC

### CIRCLE ROUND FOR JUSTICE: HEALING, COURAGE VIRTUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2021

General Assembly (GA) is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. The UUA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution making the 2021 UUA General Assembly a **100% virtual event**. All details can be found at the [UUA GA website](#).



**Circle 'Round for Justice • Healing • Courage** is the theme for General Assembly 2021. General Assembly is a time to circle 'round in community. We circle 'round in care and healing; for liberation and justice; and for love and courage. We share stories of the work happening at our Association and in our congregations. We study ways to implement and live into our mission. UUA GA 2021 will incorporate recommendations from the Commission on Institution Change report, "Widening the Circle of Concern" and dialogue with the Article II Commission about our Principles and Purposes.

Registration is open! Registration for virtual GA 2021 is *\$200 per person*. [Learn about registration details](#). [Volunteer Applications](#) are open for those who want to volunteer to lower their costs to attend. Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

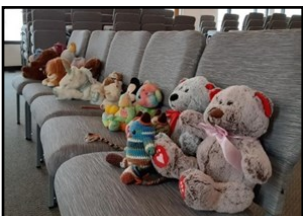
### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 SERVICE—REQUEST FOR PHOTO SUBMISSIONS



Food unites us. Some of us have long family traditions and some favorite comfort foods that we could share with one another. In line with this, send pictures of your favorite or family food to Jane D'Ambrogio (contact info in Breeze) or the church office to be shared in the upcoming February 21st service, along with your name and a memory or brief story.

### STEWARDSHIP

The theme for this year's Stewardship campaign is [#Beloved Community](#) [#Commitment](#). The campaign was kicked off during the February 7 virtual worship service with testimonials by Susan Riggs, Tony Bonta, and Sue Royer. Our story featured Teddy and friends gathering at TUUC; the sermon reflected on the meaning of our beloved community. You can read the testimonials on our website. This week, an invitation to pledge was sent to you via email. [Here is a link to our online pledge form](#). All pledge forms are due by March 15.



You are invited to take a photo of yourself and your family holding a sign with [#Beloved Community](#) [#Commitment](#) and post it in our TUUC Facebook Group or submit it for inclusion in the Threshold. Let us visualize being generous with our hearts. We invite you to give from your heart, and to be as generous as you can.

## FOR VALENTINE'S DAY: EQUAL EXCHANGE FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS AT TUUC ON SAT, FEB 13

Bundle up and join Green Sanctuary committee members on TUUC's porch on Saturday, February 13, from 10:30 am to noon, to purchase organic, fair trade goodies from Equal Exchange. Great Valentine's gifts! We have a selection of organic and fair trade items including the following:



- Coffee (regular including some whole beans, and decaf)
- Tea (black, green, flavored, herbal)
- Chocolate, including bars in a variety of flavors
- Baking cocoa
- Nuts (unsalted cashews and almonds)

If you are unable to make it to TUUC on Saturday morning, we are also offering local deliveries this weekend, for a \$5 donation. You can contact Carel Hedlund (info in directory) with any questions, or to request information regarding delivery. To learn more about fair trade and Equal Exchange, here is an informative video. <https://www.youtube.com/embed/H3Cx5Jn9hgA>

## WIDENING THE CIRCLE OF CONCERN DISCUSSION—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 FROM 1-2:30 PM

We continue our discussion of the UUA's Commission on Institutional Change report, "Widening the Circle of Concern." Today we look more deeply at hospitality and inclusion. For more information, please see <https://www.towsonuuc.org/widening-the-circle>.

## TUUC SOCRATES CAFÉ—NEXT MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AT 7:30 PM

The next session of the TUUC Socrates Café will be held this coming Monday evening, February 15 from 7:30 to 9 pm. The question we will be probing, suggested by Michael Magrogan and Happy Brooks, is "*Is compassionate capitalism possible?*" The pre-session resource, suggested by Peter Talley, is to listen to the 20-minute interview on YouTube with the renowned economist, Thomas Piketty, entitled [\*Taxing Inequal\*](#) about capital and ideology.

To join us in the discussion, email Nancy Caswell at [socratescafe@towsonuuc.org](mailto:socratescafe@towsonuuc.org) by Saturday, February 13 to be added to the email list. Remember our mantra, the Delphic Oracle, "Know thyself." Namaste!

## ETHNIC LUNCH TIME – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 12:30 PM

This month we are following the wise piece of advice "Life is uncertain. Eat dessert first." Ethnic lunch is going to focus on the end of the meal, what the British often refer to as "pudding" with a demonstration on how to make a UK favorite, Sticky Toffee Pudding. Jane Selewach is going to bring her sweet talents to this lovely dessert plus her secret on how to make perfect chocolate chip cookies. Recipes will be provided.

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 that address.

- Claudia Sumler & Janet Kuperstein

## **GREEN TOWSON ALLIANCE—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 7:30 PM**

The Drawdown Zoom group will be meeting with the Green Towson Alliance on Wednesday, Feb. 24th at 7:30 PM to learn about the many environmental accomplishments of GTA. These include such activities as tree-planting, interacting with government officials, giving input on proposed development, and more. There will be a discussion of their on-going projects and an explanation as to how GTA is organized through volunteer and neighborhood association work groups. Please join us to discover more about this active and vital organization. To receive the Zoom information and participate, contact Bobbie Miyasaki (email in Breeze.)

*- Donna Eden, Carel Hedlund, & Bobbie Miyasaki*

## **WRITING YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY STARTING ON FRIDAY, FEB 26 AT 2PM**

Join us every second and fourth Friday from 2-3 PM as we explore our spiritual lives. There will be a fifteen minute writing session followed by optional sharing with the group. Open to women, men, and non-binary. For more information and to register please contact Art Starr at [mensgroup@towsonuuc.org](mailto:mensgroup@towsonuuc.org).

## **SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP HAPPY HOUR—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27 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.

## **TUUC GARDENERS ANONYMOUS—FIRST MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 1 AT 7:30 PM**

Whether you are a gardening guru or beginner please join other TUUCers to discuss all things growing: vegetables and flowers, and fruits. I hope we can share our skills and knowledge, maybe even share seeds or plants. We will meet the first Mondays of the month, starting on Monday, March 1, at 7:30 pm after Vespers. Contact Joyce Duncan if you have questions. Zoom info will be on the church calendar and in the Threshold the week before.

## **TUUC BLOOD DRIVE—FRIDAY, MARCH 12 FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM**

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Friday, March 12th, 2021 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 March 12th, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating.

NEW INFO: The Red Cross is testing all donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The antibody test is authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to the coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. *This test is not to diagnose current COVID-19 symptoms*, referred to as a diagnostic test. [Click here](#) to learn more about the COVID-19 Antibody testing. To sign up for an appointment time between 10:00am-4:00pm please use [this link](#) OR email Clare Flynn-Avallone with your preferred times. Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!

# TUUC SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PARTNER WE SUPPORT?

This month, we highlight the TUUC Social Action Partner, the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland (UULM-MD). The 2021 Legislative Session starts January 13, 2021 and will be in session through April 12, 2021. Please also see the article below, "*These Issues Need Our Support - How You Can Help*" which shows us how we can urge our Legislators to support issues which agree with our Unitarian Principles. You can learn more about the organization, the laws, or donate to, the UULM at their website, <https://www.uulmmd.org/>.

The **Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland (UULM-MD)** is a statewide advocacy network of Unitarian Universalists. They work to educate, mobilize, and coordinate UUs on specific issues before the Maryland General Assembly. Working in coalition with established state and national organizations, they as UUs model a reverence for the interdependent web of all existence which fosters justice, health and equity in society. You are encouraged to join on this journey as we engage Marylanders, expand freedom and nurture an inclusive, life-affirming system of government.

## THESE ISSUES NEED OUR SUPPORT—HOW YOU CAN HELP

In Item 2 of the upcoming Maryland Legislative Session, you will find a few key measures which the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of MD (UULM-MD) supports. Voting on Item 2A occurred on Thursday, February 11.

Please find your Representative [here](#), and email or call them. More information on these measures can be found at the [UULM website](#).

You may use this template, or any part of it you wish, for an email:

*Please vote to support the following measures:*

*Override the governor's vetoes of:*

- 1. Women's prerelease centers - [HB 801/SB 684](#). Women receive no support on the transition from prison while men have a program.*
- 2. Blueprint for Maryland (Kirwan Commission) - [HB 1300](#). The General Assembly passed a comprehensive overhaul of Maryland's education system with emphasis on early childhood education, teacher retraining, and college pathways. Overriding this veto is a step toward redressing oppressive systemic inequities.*

*Vote for:*

- 1. Criminal justice reform: Repeal the Law Enforcement Bill of Rights (HB 151) and Police Reform and Accountability Act of 2021 - ([HB 670](#))*
- 2. Climate change: Transportation Safety and Investment Act - [HB 114](#) / [SB 199](#) and Climate Solutions Now - [HB 583](#) / [SB 414](#)*
- 3. Economic Justice: Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) Program Act - [HB 375](#) / [SB 211](#)*
- 4. Healthcare: Health Equity Resource Communities Initiative - [HB 463](#) / [SB 172](#)*

5. *Gun Violence Prevention: Require licensed dealer for all gun transfers* [HB 4/SB 208](#) and *fund the Maryland Violence Intervention and Prevention Program* [SB 708](#)
6. *Immigration: The Maryland Trust Act -* [HB 304 / SB 88](#) and *MVA Data Sharing law* [HB 23 / SB 234](#) to limit local cooperation with ICE and *Dignity Not Detention -* [HB 16 / SB 478](#) to end local contracts to imprison immigrants pending deportation

### 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/>.

### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 AT 12:00 PM

The Social Action Committee will meet at noon, after the Service and Coffee time, on Feb. 14, at noon. All are welcome. An Agenda will be sent to members.



**VIRTUAL CHOIR REHEARSAL**  
**THURSDAYS AT 7:30 PM**

**TUUC BOOK CLUB**  
NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY MARCH 3 AT 7:30 PM  
MORE INFORMATION [HERE](#)



**COMMON READ**  
**FIRST MEETING**  
**MON, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:30 PM**



**COMMON READ**  
**SECOND MEETING**  
**MON, MARCH 22 AT 7:30 PM**

## CABIN FEVER

“THE AFRICAN QUEEN” (1951)  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13 AT 4PM  
MORE INFORMATION [HERE](#)

*Writing as a Spiritual Practice*

**A VIRTUAL DROP-IN GROUP**  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19 AT 1:00 PM**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar [here](#) for most current schedule.  
Click [here](#) for the schedule of ongoing regular TUUC virtual meetings.

13 Feb	Saturday	Equal Exchange Fair Trade Sale	10:30 AM
14 Feb	Sunday	Family Meetings/Classes	9:00 AM
14 Feb	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
14 Feb	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
14 Feb	Sunday	Widening the Circle	1:00 PM
15 Feb	Monday	Vespers	7:00 PM
15 Feb	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 PM
16 Feb	Tuesday	Coffee with the Minister	12:00 PM
16 Feb	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
16 Feb	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
17 Feb	Wednesday	Ethnic Lunch	12:30 PM
18 Feb	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
19 Feb	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM

## 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.



## 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
02/07/2021	10:30 AM	94