



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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 - 10:30 AM

DOMINIQUE HALL AND THE TUUC HOSPITALITY, MEMBERSHIP, USHERS: *FOOD UNITES US*

As a culturally shared experience, food can unite us in spirit even when we cannot be together in person. In this service, members of the Hospitality and Usher committees muse upon the role of food in creating beloved community. They will also share memories from the congregation of meals and food that have enriched relationships.

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

When we think about Beloved Community, one can't help reflecting on the work of BLUU (Black Lives of UU) and DRUUMM (Diverse Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries). With the dedicated leadership of these groups, UU White supremacy is being called out and challenged. We are gaining insights into our faith from these and other leaders of color about how to journey into multicultural wholeness. So, what's one of the ways our faith guides us into becoming a people of Beloved Community? It tells us to "Honor Your Black leaders!" Please join us at 9 am on Sunday morning for a group meeting followed by breakout classes for Kindergarten through 4th and 5th-7th grade groups. Younger children will learn about Baltimore-born author and speaker Frances Ellen Watkins Harper who was a member of both Unitarian and AME congregations after the Civil War. The older group will learn about Bayard Rustin, an activist for gay rights and antiracism, who was the main organizer for the March on Washington. Check the parent email for updates on the Winter Walk this Sunday at Hampton Mansion.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 SERVICE INFORMATION

For Sunday, February 21, 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

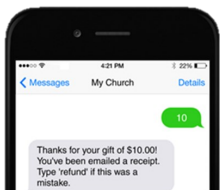
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84372142310?pwd=NkVuK2gzMXUyek1WY3VxRHVKMURFQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 7214 2310

Passcode: 213054



VESPERS SERVICE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22
7:00—7:30 PM



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](#)

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!"



*Coffee with the
Minister*
Tuesdays at Noon



**TUUC POST AUCTION
SALE—[ITEMS STILL
AVAILABLE!](#)**

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.

GREEN SANCTUARY—LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

The Green Sanctuary Committee prepared and submitted letters on 4 important issues pending in the Maryland legislature (click on links to see letters):

1. [A constitutional amendment on environmental rights](#)
2. [A prohibition on single-use plastic bags](#)
3. [A climate solutions bill that requires an acceleration in greenhouse gas reductions, targets overburdened communities, protects fossil fuel workers, and plants 5 million trees](#)
4. [A bill targeting transit safety and investment](#)



Because these bills were supported by the UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland, these letters were signed in the name of TUUC by President Sue Royer. They were submitted to Senator Chris West and Delegates Michele Guyton and Nino Mangione, as our church is in their district.

Feel free to forward these letters to your own senator and delegate, indicating that your church supports these important bills and you think they are important! Please contact Carel Hedlund (info in Breeze) if you have any questions.

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

STEWARDSHIP

Our stewardship testimonials continued on February 14 with a powerful testimonial by Steve Finner. Steve spoke of love, and recounted a story about walking in the bamboo way. If you weren't at the service, you can read his remarks, which are posted on the church website under Stewardship.



Steve Finner



Judi Clague

Last week, we sent emails with a link to our [online pledge form](#).

We've also sent the Stewardship letter and pledge form through the US mail. Please return your form as soon as you can. Let us visualize being generous with our hearts. We invite you to give from your heart, and to be as generous as you can.



Sue Walker

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.

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.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88557725169?pwd=V3lGZTJERHdKYUNVeGIUTXJPU1g2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 885 5772 5169

Passcode: 157792

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!

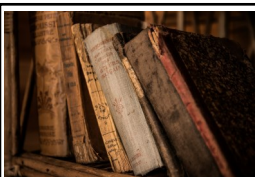
GIVING STATEMENTS

Working on your taxes? Looking for your statement of giving for calendar year 2020? Our bookkeeper, Raly Baltchev, sent statements via email in January. The subject line is "Giving Statement". If you have trouble locating it or need another statement sent to you, please contact Raly at bookkeeper@towsonuuc.org or contact Kai Aiyetoro at churchoffice@towsonuuc.org or 410-825-6045 for assistance.



VIRTUAL CHOIR REHEARSAL
THURSDAYS AT 7:30 PM

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



WRITING YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AT 2:00 PM

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 started 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/>.



COMMON READ

FIRST MEETING

MON, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:30 PM



COMMON READ

SECOND MEETING

MON, MARCH 22 AT 7:30 PM

Writing as a Spiritual Practice

A VIRTUAL DROP-IN GROUP

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19 AT 1:00 PM



CABIN FEVER

“22 JULY” (2018)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20 AT 4PM

MORE INFORMATION [HERE](#)



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.

19 Feb	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
20 Feb	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
20 Feb	Saturday	Cabin Fever—22 July	4:00 PM
21 Feb	Sunday	Family Meetings/Classes	9:00 AM
21 Feb	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
22 Feb	Monday	Vespers	7:00 PM
22 Feb	Monday	Common Read Book Discussion	7:30 PM
23 Feb	Tuesday	Coffee with the Minister	12:00 PM
23 Feb	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
23 Feb	Tuesday	Soul Matters	7:30 PM
24 Feb	Wednesday	Drawdown	7:30 PM
25 Feb	Thursday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
25 Feb	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
25 Feb	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
26 Feb	Friday	Spiritual Autobiography	2:00 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.

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
02/14/2021	10:30 AM	85