



## What does it mean to be a people of becoming?

**SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021 - 10:30 AM** 

# REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, JOYCE DUNCAN, TRACY HALL, AND THE TUUC CHOIR: EASTER MEMORIES AND HOPES

This Easter Sunday we celebrate ancient and contemporary stories of memory and of hope. Who are you remembering today? What lessons did they teach you about faith, hope, and love? And how are you planning to pass on those lessons to future generations? *HEADS UP*: You are invited to wear your favorite Easter hat (or really any hat) and bring decorated eggs to your device in honor of the story of Ms. Eula Mae.

#### YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

We hope you can join us on Sunday, April 4, for an online Easter RE Celebration at 11:30 AM. We will make an art project together, share favorite Easter traditions, and enjoy an Easter scavenger hunt. This will take place instead of the usual 9 AM class so you can sleep in or enjoy a leisurely breakfast before joining the 10:30 AM service or the 11:30 AM virtual event.

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 4 SERVICE INFORMATION**

For Sunday, April 4, 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.

**Zoom Link** for service

Meeting ID: 981 0789 4699

Passcode: 478010



VESPERS SERVICE MONDAY, APRIL 5 7:00-7:30 PM

#### **AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$117.67**

Thank you for choosing Towson UUC as your preferred charity with <u>Amazon Smile!</u> 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.





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## PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE MORE INFORMATION ON THE TUUC WEBSITE HERE

## **CLARE'S COLLOQUY**

Last Easter, Dr. Neil Porter texted me, "Do you know the response to 'He is risen?" I texted back, "Alleluia?" This guess was rooted in the reality that the Unitarian Universalist congregation in which I was raised focused more on singing Alleluias than on liturgies celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. Neil was clearly disappointed that my theological education did not include the Easter liturgy. He texted back the proper response, "He is risen, indeed."

As we prepare to celebrate our second Easter in virtual space, I have been thinking about the stories of the resurrection. The oldest of the resurrection stories does not have loved ones at a tomb, a stone that needs to be rolled away, or angels. About 20 years after the death of Jesus, Paul tells the Corinthians that Jesus died, was buried, and was raised from the dead on the third day and that he appeared to Peter, to the Twelve, and to many others.

The gospel accounts, which were written 65-110 years after the death of Jesus vary as to which women were at the tomb and how many angels greeted them and what the angels said. What the gospel accounts have in common is that the disciples do not immediately recognize Jesus. In John, Mary mistakes him for a gardener. In Matthew, some of the disciples doubt his appearance. In Luke, the disciples Cleopas and Simon do not recognize Jesus as they walk together on the road to Emmaus. And in John, the resurrected Jesus has to go through a locked door not once, but twice, in order to convince doubting Thomas.

Resurrection does not mean resuscitation. Jesus did not return to live his life as the person he had been. He was not recognized by his disciples. What his disciples sought to embody in their own lives after his death was his legacy of love. At the end of the gospel of John, Jesus instructs Simon Peter, "Feed my sheep."

Our spiritual question for April is, "What does it mean to be a people of becoming?" This particular Easter reminds me that as a people of becoming, we never become who we once were. What resonates is our experience that out of loss and grief new life arises. We are not the same person. But life continues.

Our hope, this Easter, is that we will receive the Covid-19 vaccine; be able to safely hug our family and friends; go back to work; go back to school; and return to our church building. But we will not go back to being who we were before March of 2020. We have been changed by this pandemic. How we do church will also change as a result to ensure that everyone who wants to participate can do so---even when not geographically in the same location.

What will not change is our commitment to become people whose legacy is seeking truth, loving deeply, and working for racial, social, and environmental justice.

Alleluia! He is risen. He is risen indeed!



TUUC POST AUCTION

SALE—<u>ITEMS STILL</u>

AVAILABLE!



Writing Your Spiritual
Autobiography
Friday, April 9
2:00 PM

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT TUUC**

#### FROM THE TUUC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Do you want to help lead the church into the future? Do you want to help build our Beloved Community? If so, the nominating committee is looking for a few good people. Positions available are Finance Head, Trustees-at-Large, House and Grounds Manager, and Nominating committee member. For details of the roles <u>click here</u>. As part of our commitment to being an inclusive congregation, there may be consideration for flexibility and innovation to accommodate anyone who is interested. If you would like to nominate a member with their consent, the deadline is 3/30/2021. Please email your response to the nominating committee at nominating@towsonuc.org.

#### TUUC GREEN SANCTUARY: FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS SALE ON SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Just in time for Easter or your Spring Celebration, the Green Sanctuary Committee will be selling fair trade products on Saturday April 3rd from 11 AM to noon, on the TUUC front porch. In addition to the usual coffee, tea, nuts and chocolate bars, we have a new product: North Country Cayenne Hot Sauce! Give it a try!



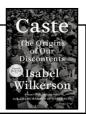
#### SAVE THE DATE! TUUC'S FIRST ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW: SATURDAY, APRIL 10 AT 7 PM

Join us for and evening of surprises as TUUC members and friends perform an assortment of acts guaranteed to astound and amaze you! Comedy! Music! Dance! It's everything you could ask for in a 90 minute show for the whole family!

#### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING: SUNDAY, APRIL 11 AT NOON

The Social Action Committee will meet at noon on April 11, following the service. All are welcome. An agenda will be sent to members.

TUUC BOOK CLUB
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 AT 7:30 PM





Writing as a Spiritual Practice A VIRTUAL DROP-IN GROUP FRIDAY, APRIL 2 AT 1:00PM



# COMMON READ

**NEXT MEETING:** 

**MONDAY, APRIL 19: 7:30PM** 

# CABIN FEVER

"CHI-RAQ" (2015) SATURDAY, APRIL 3: 4PM



#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Our Stewardship team members are in the process of calling 53 households – please accept the call. We'll answer your questions. 115 households have pledged – thank you!! We are in the wrap-up phase of the campaign. If you missed testimonials during recent Sunday services from Tony Bonta, Susan Riggs, Sue Royer, Steve Finner, Jane D'Ambrogi, Spice Kleinmann, or Nancy Caswell, these are posted on the church website under the Member Area. Reverend Clare has spoken about our vision for when we reopen and can gather safely in person, and that we envision a new assistive listening system for our meeting room, cameras, equipment and an upgrade to our internet so that we can stream services, hiring an architect to conduct a study and draw up plans for a main level accessible restroom, training for congregants in multi-culturalism and anti-racism, and scholarships for General Assembly in 2022. We have big dreams!

We invite you to give from your heart, and to be as generous as you can. Here are links to the <u>online form</u> and <u>printable form</u>. All pledge forms were due by March 31, but are still being accepted! Your pledge is for the fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2021.

#BelovedCommunity #Commitment





























## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar <u>here</u> for most current schedule.

Click **here** for the schedule of ongoing regular TUUC virtual meetings.

2 Apr	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
3 Apr	Saturday	Fair Trade Sale	11:00 AM
3 Apr	Saturday	Cabin Fever—Chi-Raq	4:00 PM
4 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
4 Apr	Sunday	Easter RE Celebration	11:30 AM
4 Apr	Sunday	Green Sanctuary Meeting	12:00 PM
5 Apr	Monday	Vespers	7:00 PM
6 Apr	Tuesday	Coffee with the Minister	12:00 PM
6 Apr	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
6 Apr	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
7 Apr	Wednesday	Book Club	7:30 PM
8 Apr	Thursday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
8 Apr	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
8 Apr	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
9 Apr	Friday	Writing Your 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
03/28/2021	10:30 AM	74