



What does it mean to be a people of becoming?

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021 - 10:30 AM

REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER: *SIGNS POINT TO YES*

Given how many people have received Covid-19 vaccinations, several TUUC members have asked, recently, about a possible time frame for returning to our church building. Rest assured that I would like to know this, too. Wanting to know what to expect in the future is part of what it means to be a people of becoming. I am reminded of the classic Magic 8 Ball. You asked it a question and it would give you an answer. If you asked it about a time frame for returning to our TUUC building, it might well answer, "Signs point to yes." We are always living in the unknown. To become the people we are meant to become, how do we stay open and what do we trust?

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Who are we meant to become? What unique gifts can we share with the world? That is for us to find out for our whole lives. Growing into what is special and unique about us isn't always easy. Society is constantly pressuring us to become something we're not. So, what is one way our faith guides us to being a people of Becoming? It tells us, "Resist what others want you to be and become your true and unique self!" Families with children in Kindergarten through 7th grade are invited to join us at 9 AM for a joint meeting and then breakout classes for Kindergarten through 4th and for 5th through 7th grades.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11 SERVICE INFORMATION

For Sunday, April 11, 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: 935 7501 4752 Passcode: 175835



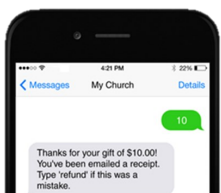
VESPERS SERVICE

MONDAY, APRIL 12

7:00—7:30 PM

AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$117.67

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.



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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 BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5 AT 7:30 PM



Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography

Friday, April 9

2:00 PM

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT TUUC

NEWS ABOUT US

Congratulations to TUUC member Steve Finner for his upcoming recognition by the Johns Hopkins University--Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology. On June 1, Steve will be presented with an award of recognition for his service to the Division during the early Covid-19 pandemic time. Thank you for your service to the wider community in a challenging time, Steve! ---*Rev. Clare*

TUUC'S FIRST ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW: THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 10 AT 7 PM!

THIS SATURDAY! Join us for an 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 ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21 AT 12:30 PM

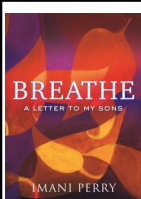
Spring has sprung! Although it is still early days to think about eating in a restaurant, Janet Kuperstein and I think it's time to try ethnic lunch at Oregon Ridge again. People are invited to get a takeout meal at the ethnic restaurant of their choice and gather at the pavilion behind the dinner theater at Oregon Ridge at 12:30 on Wednesday, April 21. Meals will not be shared and TUUC continues to ask everyone to wear face masks when not eating. There are lots of tables and so it is easy to spread out. Janet and I are looking for an ethnic restaurant with outdoor seating that we can try for May. If anyone knows of some place that has sufficient seating for a group, let us know and we will check it out. RSVP for April 21 ethnic lunch to ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org. Rain date is Wednesday, April 28 - *Claudia Sumler & Janet Kuperstein*

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP HAPPY HOUR—SATURDAY, APRIL 24 AT 4PM

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.

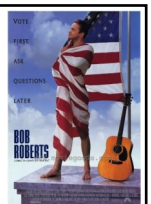
HELP WANTED—TEEN/YOUNG-ADULT SINGERS FOR VIRTUAL CHOIR PROJECT THIS MONTH

Help wanted for TUUC Choir Project this month! Contact Tracy Hall at music@towsonuuc.org for more info.



COMMON READ
NEXT MEETING:
MONDAY, APRIL 19: 7:30PM

CABIN FEVER
"BOB ROBERTS" (1992)
SATURDAY, APRIL 10: 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 [online form](#) and [printable form](#). 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



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



*Writing as a
Spiritual Practice*
**A VIRTUAL DROP-IN GROUP
FRIDAY, APRIL 16 AT 1:00PM**

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.

9 Apr	Friday	Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography	2:00 PM
10 Apr	Saturday	Cabin Fever—Bob Roberts	4:00 PM
10 Apr	Saturday	First Annual Variety Show	7:00 PM
11 Apr	Sunday	Family Meetings and Classes	9:00 AM
11 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
11 Apr	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
11 Apr	Sunday	Widening the Circle	1:00 PM
11 Apr	Sunday	YRE Program—OWL	3:30 PM
12 Apr	Monday	Vespers	7:00 PM
13 Apr	Tuesday	Coffee with the Minister	12:00 PM
13 Apr	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
13 Apr	Tuesday	Soul Matters	7:30 PM
14 Apr	Wednesday	Program Council Meeting	7:30 PM
15 Apr	Thursday	Virtual Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
16 Apr	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 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
04/04/2021	10:30 AM	86