



SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021 - 10:30 AM

TIMOTHY BONIFACE: *PLAYING WITH ROLES*

Tabletop role-playing games mix improvisational play-acting with board game elements. While these games have a reputation as nerdy escapist fantasies, they can be a useful and interactive means of establishing a safe space to explore and expand our perspectives on philosophical and social justice issues. Please join us as we explore playing with roles.

SUNDAY, JULY 25 SERVICE INFORMATION

For Sunday, July 25, 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/82083282041?pwd=TEVsbitUb2VaOHlWRWJ4S2NoM0QyZz09>

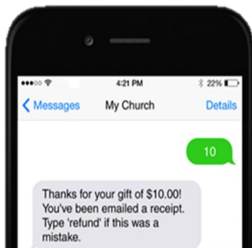
Meeting ID: 820 8328 2041

Passcode: 516587



AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$100.43

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(410)834-0700

PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE
MORE INFORMATION ON THE TUUC WEBSITE [HERE](#)

SUMMER MUSINGS—BY SUE ROYER, BOARD PRESIDENT

This summer, our worship services are on the theme of being a people of play. One of the things that kept me going during lockdown was playing Settlers of Catan online with family members in three other locations. We had become fans of the game previously, and were used to playing face-to-face when together on vacation or at holidays. During the stay-at-home times, we would play almost weekly, getting on a group phone call and all joining the same game. We learned that the rules enforced online were slightly different than the rules we were used to.



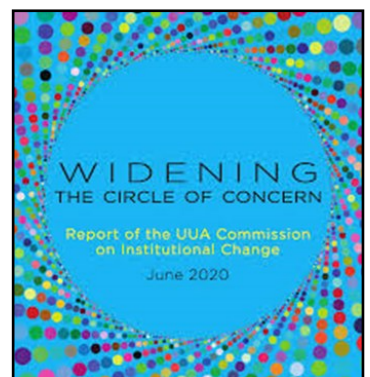
When we could resume playing in person on an actual board, I found myself trying to remember the rule differences... are we placing an initial settlement and a city? And acquiring resources just for the city? When I was growing up and playing Monopoly, we didn't have money on Free Parking. When we first played with my brother-in-law, he did have money on Free Parking. We had all assumed that our way of playing was the right way; we hadn't considered that anyone would play with different rules.

Now I wonder, is it okay to enjoy playing these board games? Are they reinforcing colonialism or capitalism? At the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly last month, there were many workshops on becoming more multicultural, and on identifying white supremacy culture in ourselves and our institutions, so that we can become anti-racists, and so that we can bring the life-saving theology of Unitarian Universalism to a wider audience. We participated in worship services (remotely) where Black, Indigenous, Latinx, AAPI, and queer UU religious professionals expressed lament and expressed joy. In the Beloved Conversations workshop, each of us was called to truth and love. The work can be joyful – play, singing, dance. It may be counter-cultural to begin with joy. We are encouraged to refuse to let the dominant white culture define our capacity for joy, laughing, dancing.

In the coming year, our church will discuss and discern the findings from Widening the Circle of Concern and the proposed 8th Principle:

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

Can we learn to understand and identify the difference between our culture and our theology? Are we ready to change to become more multi-cultural? Do we recognize practices of white-normed culture such as perfectionism, false sense of urgency, assuming a right to comfort, and individualism? These and more will be some of the questions we'll consider.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT TUUC

UPDATE ON HOUSE AND GROUNDS—DANDER REMEDIATION PROJECT

Those who attended a recent listening session or the annual congregational meeting have heard about our dander issue and dander remediation project. Due to allergic reactions experienced by staff and guests prior to the church closing, we hired a firm to conduct environmental testing on the indoor air and carpets. Significant dander was found in the office areas on the main and lower levels. The Administrative Team has researched and requested quotes from contractors to address this issue. The Board has approved spending up to \$25,000 on the project. The work includes:

- Boxing up books, files, and music from the offices (staff and volunteers)
- Moving the boxes and furniture out of the offices (contractor)
- Removing existing carpet (contractor)
- Deep cleaning – HEPA vacuuming, cleaning the floor and the walls, hot thermal fog, with containment area set up (contractor)
- Painting and new flooring – vinyl plank (contractor)
- Moving the boxes and furniture back into the offices (contractor)
- Duct work cleaning – entire building (contractor)
- Moving books, files, and music back into the offices (staff and volunteers)
- Air flow analysis of the entire building (HVAC contractor)

The scope of work is the offices – main office, Rev. Clare’s office, and the shared office on the lower level. The only work that involves the entire building is the duct cleaning and air flow analysis. In accordance with our governance policy, we have obtained at least two quotes for any single expenditure \$3500 or greater. The work has started and we anticipate completion over the summer.

REVEREND CLARE OFF-DUTY FOR JULY

Reverend Clare will be off duty for the month of July. In addition, in August, she will be on study leave. Being a solo minister, and especially in the time of a pandemic, can seem like a 24 by 7 job. The Board of Trustees has strongly encouraged Rev. Clare to disconnect from TUUC and pastoral duties for July and August, so that she can rest and recharge. Our Lay Worship Associates have planned services for the summer on the theme of being a people of Play; we look forward to seeing you on Zoom. Church business continues in Rev. Clare’s absence, and emergency pastoral care is available. Please contact churchoffice@towsonuuc.org. We will relay your request to a lay pastoral associate or a back-up minister.

ATTENTION POETS!

The annual TUUC poetry service will happen on Sunday, August 22, and we need your poetry! Submit a video of yourself reading an original or a favorite poem about PLAY, and we will include it in the service. Send videos to AndrewW.Hager@gmail.com by Friday, August 13. (you can also email Andrew for any questions you might have.)

SOCIAL ACTION

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PARTNER WE SUPPORT?

This month, we highlight the TUUC Social Action Community Partner Our Daily Bread (ODB). Since June 1, 1981, they have never missed a day of lunch service to those experiencing hunger in Baltimore, in spite of blizzards, hurricanes or any other occurrence. 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.

TUUC has pledged to provide at least 50 casseroles to ODB each month which has 5 Saturdays (usually 4 times per year). July is one of those months. Contributions by individuals and churches serve 600-800 lunch guests each day!

During Covid, we are contributing funds only (\$10 per casserole), not actual cooked casseroles.

To learn more about the program, see <https://www.catholiccharities-md.org/services/our-daily-bread-hot-meal-program/>

So, please contribute to Our Daily Bread (ODB) by one of these methods:

1. Text - Send a text to 410-834-0700:

amount + ODB, for example: text "50 ODB" to give \$50

2. Send a check to TUUC (1710 Dulaney Valley Rd. Lutherville MD 21093) and specify "ODB" on the memo line.

Thank you for your generosity!

ASSISTANCE CENTER OF TOWSON CHURCHES (ACTC) FOOD DONATIONS

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.)

TUUC BOOK CLUB

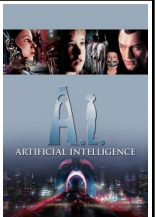
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

7:30 PM



CABIN FEVER

"AI-ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE" (2001)
SATURDAY, JULY 24: 4PM



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.

24 July	Saturday	Cabin Fever—AI: Artificial Intelligence	4:00 PM
25 July	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
31 July	Saturday	Cabin Fever—What's Eating Gilbert Grape	4:00 PM
1 Aug	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
3 Aug	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
3 Aug	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
4 Aug	Wednesday	Book Club	7:30 PM
8 Aug	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
8 Aug	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
11 Aug	Wednesday	Program Council Meeting	7:30 PM
12 Aug	Thursday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
12 Aug	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
15 Aug	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
16 Aug	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 PM



TECHNICAL USHERS NEEDED

We continue to recruit 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
07/18/2021	10:30 AM	59