

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022 - 10:30 AM (DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME-SPRING FORWARD!)

REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, SPICE KLEINMAN: “STAND BY THIS FAITH”

In honor of Women’s History Month, today we reflect on the first woman to be ordained with official approval from a national denomination. That’s where we generally end the story. But like any good story, it is more complex. Because this person subsequently left Universalism for many, many years before returning. Why did she leave? Why did she return?

SUNDAY, MARCH 13 ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION

For those who have not registered for in-person worship and who plan to join us on Zoom this Sunday, please see below for the Zoom information.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98490176896?pwd=T0xxS3owYUIUcXU1SUZ2TWVQOHBLZz09>

Meeting ID: 984 9017 6896 **Passcode:** 628313

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

It was great to see old and new friends last Sunday. Our classes are off to a wonderful start. We look forward to our second Sunday meeting in person.

Kindergarten through 5th grade will be discussing the same Soul Matters themes that are used in worship, such as Renewing Faith or Awakening. This group starts upstairs in the service at 10:30 AM and then meets in Room 5.

6th-8th grade will be “Heeding the Call” using lessons from a curriculum of that name that focuses on key topics for making justice, such awareness, courage, empathy, and cooperation. This group starts upstairs in the worship service and then meets in Room 6.

9th -12th grade (YRUU) Young Religious Unitarian Universalists, or YRUU, will be discussing topics of their choosing and focusing on a service learning trip to West Virginia to repair housing and fundraisers for that trip. We will also offer opportunities for serving our church home and local community and social events. This group meets at 10:30 AM in Room 7 unless you hear otherwise.



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

Our spiritual theme for March, chosen last spring, is "Renewing Faith." There was no way of knowing that Russia would invade Ukraine on February 24th, initiating the biggest land war in Europe since World War II. Upon learning of the invasion, a colleague posted this excerpt from a poem by Somali-British poet Warsan Shire:

"Later that night
i held an atlas in my lap
ran my fingers across the whole world
and whispered
where does it hurt?
it answered
everywhere
everywhere
everywhere"

What does renewing our faith mean in the face of this stark reality? It is hard to have faith in reason, and trust that everything will work out in the end, when a single individual is able to send tanks into a sovereign country; accuse its Jewish President of being a Neo-Nazi; quite possibly have authorized a crime against humanity by using thermobaric vacuum bombs on civilians including children; and definitely ensured that the world knows his nuclear forces are on high alert.

On the other hand, each day since this catastrophe began, we have seen the best in human nature from an individual Ukrainian single handedly trying to stop a tank from moving forward with his bare hands to an individual Ukrainian approaching a heavily armed Russian soldier and handing him sunflower seeds telling him that they will grow out of his corpse in her land. Ukrainians have removed road signs to confuse the Russian soldiers and one group of women spent an afternoon making Molotov cocktails. President Zelensky, when the USA offered him a flight out of Kyiv to set up his government out of the warzone replied, "I need ammunition and not a ride."

When it comes to renewing faith, we have seen countries pull together and agree to stop doing financial business with Russia---including the United States---even when it will entail hardship for citizens. We have seen sports teams refuse to compete with Russian athletes to send a clear message that this aggression is wrong. We have seen Anonymous cyber hackers try to get the truth about the world situation to Russian citizens who are being told repeated lies by the Russian government.

Frederic and Mary Ann Brussart tell the story of how the Dutch-born American minister and pacifist, Abraham Johannes Muste was once asked by a reporter, "Do you really think you are going to change the policies of this country by standing out here alone at night in front of the White House with a candle?" Muste replied softly: "Oh I don't do this to change the country. I do this so the country won't change me."

For me, on March 2nd, renewing faith is not about renewing trust that "everything will be OK." Inspired by the example of Ukrainians, renewing faith is remembering our highest ideals, who

we love, who we want to be and acting accordingly. Sometimes, as in the story of A. J. Muste, this means lighting a candle as a silent witness. Sometimes, as in the stories of heroism from Ukraine, resistance to injustice asks much more of us.

TUUC members have asked about how to help the people in Ukraine and the refugees from Ukraine. Please know the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, committed to peacefully advancing human rights around the globe, has several partners it is supporting. You may learn more here: <https://www.uusc.org/press/we-demand-an-end-to-the-bloodshed-uusc-responds-to-vladimir-putins-invasion-of-ukraine/>

May this longing to help to ease suffering renew our faith.

SOCIAL ACTION

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.)

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING—SUNDAY, MARCH 13 AT 12 PM ON ZOOM

The Social Action Committee will meet on Zoom at noon on Sunday March 13, following the Service and Coffee time. All are welcome. Please see the church calendar for information. An Agenda will be sent to those on the mailing list.



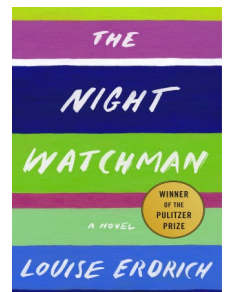
AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$87.89

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.

TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

7:30 PM



CABIN FEVER

PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (1986)

SUNDAY, MARCH 13: 4:30PM



STEWARDSHIP

We're about to begin the wrap-up phase of the Stewardship campaign. During our first multiplatform worship service, on March 6, President-Elect Andrew Hager shared that Stewardship is really about making sure that the things you believe, the ideas and places you love, are there for the future. He told a story about how his father shared his love of the Beach Boys' music with Andrew. Andrew concluded with, "someday your efforts will brighten the life of a person who is looking for a ray of hope. That person, like you and I before them, will appreciate the efforts of their forebearers."

How wonderful it was on Sunday to be together again, in the church building for the first time in two years, and on Zoom at the same time! As of March 4th, 88 households have pledged, including the sustaining pledgers, whose pledge continues until they inform us otherwise. If you haven't submitted your pledge form, get ready to receive a phone call from one of our team members, inviting you to pledge for the upcoming year.

The Board of Trustees chose these focus areas for the Stewardship campaign:

- gathering in person at church for worship, while concurrently opening our online doors by streaming from the meeting room, leveraging new equipment and an upgraded network.
- actively working to be more accessible to people with disabilities.
- a congregation fully living into our mission to deepen our ethical and spiritual lives together as we work for racial, social, and environmental justice.

On our website, there is an [online pledge form](#) and a [printable pledge form](#), as well as the [Stewardship letter](#). You have the option of becoming a sustaining pledger.

We appreciate every pledge! We appreciate you!

March 19, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Indoor focus

- Install new flag
- Arrange chairs for Sunday Service

Outdoor focus

- Spring property cleaning
- Tree maintenance
- Parking lot cleaning

Rain or shine (disposable rain gear provided)
Moderate weather permitting.
Bathrooms available.

Third Saturday Work Party



UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT TOWSON UUC

TUUC REOPENING

We have reopened TUUC to partial capacity for in-person worship. For more information please visit <https://www.towsonuuc.org/tuuc-reopening>

Everyone in the building will need to have registered; be prepared to show their vaccination card or a photo of it on their phone; and be masked while in the building. We will also be streaming Sunday's service on Zoom. If you are planning to attend in person, please bring a symbol of something you want to leave behind from the pandemic as well as a symbol of something you want to bring forward from wisdom gained during the pandemic.

If you are planning to attend in virtual space, I welcome a sentence about what you hope to leave behind and a sentence about what you hope to bring forward. The goal is for this ritual of renewal to include everyone! Looking forward to this transition to multi-platform worship and this ritual of renewal exactly two years after our last worship service in our building! See you in the Meeting Room and in Zoom! ---Rev. Clare



MARCH ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 AT THE HERITAGE KITCHEN AT 12:30 PM

TUUC has returned to in-person services and Janet Kuperstein and I think it is time to go back to restaurants for Ethnic Lunch! Our next lunch will have a Filipino flavor at The Heritage Kitchen located in Whitehall Mill, 3300 Clipper Mill Road, Baltimore. The Heritage Kitchen is a fast casual restaurant and doesn't take reservations but there is lots of seating in Whitehall Mill's food market setting. **Lunch will be at 12:30 PM, Wednesday March 16.**

All are welcome, but please respond by Monday, March 14 to ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org so we will know how many tables to hold.

Hope you can join us!

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP VIRTUAL GET-TOGETHER—SATURDAY, MARCH 26 AT 7 PM

The group will have a gathering for conversation in virtual space. We offer an atmosphere for fellowship and friendship among TUUC single adults. We range in age from the 60's through the 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.

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.

11 Mar	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
13 Mar	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
13 Mar	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
13 Mar	Sunday	Cabin Fever: Peggy Sue Got Married	4:30 PM
14 Mar	Monday	Membership Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
15 Mar	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
15 Mar	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
16 Mar	Wednesday	March Ethnic Lunch	12:30 PM
17 Mar	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
19 Mar	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
20 Mar	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
20 Mar	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Passing	4:30 PM
21 Mar	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 PM

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

When making your contributions online, please be sure to designate your donation to the correct fund by using the dropdown arrow. Click on the fund you wish to contribute to and write the entity (ex: ODB) in the note area for clarification.

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	In-Person / Online
03/06/2022	10:30 AM	74 / 61