



JOIN TUUC FOR VIRTUAL OR IN-PERSON SUNDAY SERVICE! PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) TO REGISTER.

THE  
THRESHOLD

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022 - 10:30 AM**

**REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER: "BRIGHT FAITH AND RENEWAL"**

On this first day of spring, we reflect on our own understanding of faith. The word "faith" does not appear in our Unitarian Universalist principles and purposes. It did not appear in the original bylaws of our congregation. It does not appear in our congregation's current mission statement. And yet, according to Sharon Salzberg, "With bright faith we act on our potential to transform our suffering and live in a different way." When, where, and with whom, have you experienced acting on your potential to transform your suffering and live in a different way?

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20 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/99924638476?pwd=SCTLcUR5VWU0L2hrc2ZxL0gvZGVUdz09>

Meeting ID: 999 2463 8476 Passcode: 762078

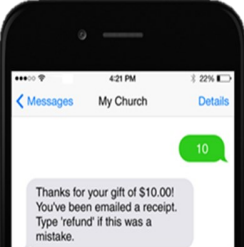
**YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION**

We look forward to seeing you again this Sunday. Your child is invited to join one of the following classes. Please fill out the form on the website if you would like to be added to the YRE mailing list: <https://www.towsonuuc.org/yre-form>.

**Kindergarten through 5th grade** will be discussing the Soul Matters themes that are used in worship, Renewing Faith. 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 the same name that highlights the qualities needed for making justice. 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 upcoming events. **This group meets at 10:30 AM in Room 7 unless you hear otherwise, not in the meeting room.**



## 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](#)**

## PROGRESS PRIDE FLAG: WIDENING THE LGBTQ WELCOME BY SUE ROYER, BOARD PRESIDENT

Have you been to TUUC in person since we re-opened? Look for our new Progress Pride flag hanging in the lobby!

I first became aware of the Progress Pride flag at the 2021 General Assembly of UUs. It's the well-known gay pride flag, redesigned in 2018 by Daniel Quasar to bring focus on inclusion and progress within the community.

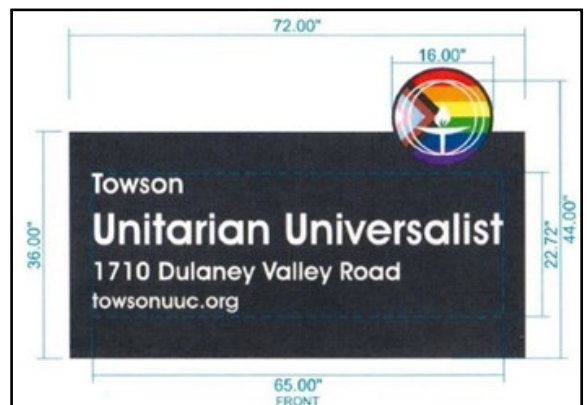
According to Wikipedia, *the "Progress" variation adds a chevron along the hoist that features black, brown, light blue, pink, and white stripes to bring those communities to the forefront (the communities being marginalized people of color, trans individuals, and those living with HIV/AIDS and those who have been lost); the arrow points to the right to show forward movement, while being along the left edge shows that progress still needs to be made.*"



We also have a new outdoor sign on order, to replace the one that was destroyed by a car cash. Our new sign will have a colorful Progress Pride flag as the background behind a chalice.

See the artist's rendering of our new outdoor sign (subject to change):

By displaying the Progress Pride flag on our sign and in our lobby, we are widening our circle of welcome.



## 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.)

## STEWARDSHIP

Our Stewardship campaign officially ended on March 15; it's not too late to pledge and be able to impact our proposed budget for FY22-23. Please submit your pledge form as soon as possible. On March 13, long time member Lois Hybl shared her reasons for joining and supporting TUUC, from looking for community when she moved to this area thirty-four years ago, to Youth Religious Education, to working for social justice.



As of March 15th, 106 households have pledged. Thank you! 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. There are 70 households from whom we expect to hear back.

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

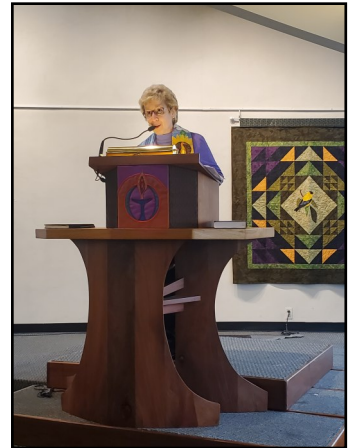


## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT TOWSON UUC

### TUUC REOPENING

We have increased the number of seats available for in-person worship to 92. 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. Weather permitting, we hope to serve hospitality outside, under the balcony, beginning March 20. And our Choir will begin rehearsing in the building (masked, vaccinated, and socially distanced) on March 17th. ---*The TUUC A-Team*



### FROM THE PULPIT MICROPHONE

After three weeks back in the building for worship, we are aware that the sound quality of the pulpit microphone is not as clear or as loud as we would like if you are worshipping with us on Zoom. We are working on this technical challenge and learning how we can offer better and consistent sound quality through all our microphones. We regret the frustration and thank you for your patience. ----*Rev. Clare*

### SOCRATES CAFÉ—MONDAY, MARCH 21 AT 7:30 PM

The TUUC Socrates Cafe will meet on Zoom for the 19th time from 7:30-9:00 PM on Monday evening, March 21st, to probe, as Socrates would have us do, our 4th UU Principle and see how it relates to our proposed UU 8th Principle. The 4th Principle is: we "covenant to affirm and promote: a free and responsible search for truth and meaning." If you would like to join the discussion that evening, and are not yet on our e-mail list, please send an e-mail to [socratescafe@towsonuuc.org](mailto:socratescafe@towsonuuc.org), and you will be e-mailed the Zoom Link the day before. As Socrates so wisely quipped: "The unexamined life is not worth living!" Namaste!

### 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.

### WHY TUUC NEEDS THE PROPOSED 8TH PRINCIPLE

At our Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 12th, our congregation will be voting on a resolution to endorse 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."**

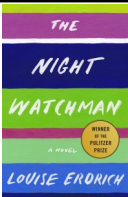
Although the TUUC Board, exemplifying the need, already approved the adoption of the 8th Principle in 2021, our congregation needs to vote for it for TUUC to become one with the approximately 156 UU churches that have, to date, adopted it. We would be joining with those churches who have seen, as we could, the need for an additional Principle to specifically name our commitment to becoming a more inclusive community. Endorsing the 8th Principle would enable us to embrace the opportunity to increase our awareness and to live more fully our TUUC Mission Statement: “to deepen our ethical and spiritual lives together as we work for racial, social, and environmental justice.”


Likewise, our TUUC Vision Statement, “to be an intentionally inclusive community, engaging with each other and the world in a heartfelt search for truth and meaning,” would be more fully realized, as would our dedication to our other 7 vision-focused Principles. The proposed 8th Principle is a call to action: accountable, concrete, measurable actions. Because there is “no mention of racism and other oppressions, specifically” in the existing 7 Principles, some see this as “a conspicuous omission.”


The 8th Principle contextualizes where the work of justice needs to be done. Endorsing it increases both the understanding and acknowledgement of issues of racism and oppression and, as a Beloved Community, doing what we can, individually and as a congregation, to wholeheartedly address and restore our society’s history and current climate of glaring inequalities. Let us come together on June 12th at our Annual Meeting and vote unanimously in favor to adopt the proposed 8th Principle...for ourselves, for our congregation, for our community, and for the world.

### 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. Our church thrives from a regular infusion of new ideas, perspectives and talents. The Nominating Committee has worked tirelessly to fill a slate of candidates to be voted on at the annual meeting on June 12, but this work is ongoing. To be considered for future leadership roles or to participate in leadership trainings and seminars, please contact Andrew Hager at [AndrewW.Hager@gmail.com](mailto:AndrewW.Hager@gmail.com). [As part of our commitment to being an inclusive congregation, there may be consideration for flexibility and innovation to accommodate anyone who is interested.]

<p><b>TUUC BOOK CLUB</b></p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6</b></p> <p><b>7:30 PM</b></p>	
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<p><b>CABIN FEVER</b></p> <p><b>PASSING (2021)</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY, MARCH 20: 4:30PM</b></p>	
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	<p><b>AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$87.89</b></p> <p>Thank you for choosing Towson UUC as your preferred charity with <a href="#">Amazon Smile!</a> 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.</p>
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## COMMON READ—BY ANDREW HAGER, TUUC PRESIDENT ELECT

In Iceland, there is a holiday tradition where family members exchange books on Christmas Eve, then spend the night reading and eating chocolate. I find this simultaneously quaint and aspirational.

If, like me, you loved the thought of curling up with a book during the long, dark nights of late autumn and early winter, you'll likely relish the return of TUUC's Common Read. Last year, we read *An Indigenous People's History of the United States*. This year, we'll be reading a series of books about anti-racism and discussing them in the Spring as part of our ongoing education and discussion around the 8th Principle.

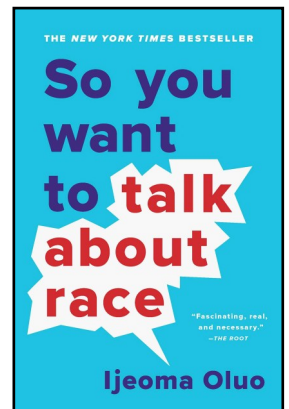
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 AT 7:30 PM**

### **SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE BY INEOMA OLUO**

Join Nancy Caswell and members of the 8th Principle Team in reading and discussing this illuminating work!

In *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from police brutality and cultural appropriation to the model minority myth in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race, and about how racism infects every aspect of American life.

**Meeting:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022: 7:30-8:30 PM



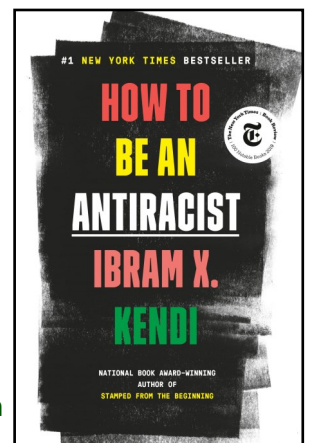
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25 AT 7:30 PM**

### **HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST BY IBRAM X. KENDI**

Join Ann Beezley and members of the 8th Principle Team for a discussion of this penetrating book!

Antiracism is a transformative concept that reorients and reenergizes the conversation about racism—and, even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. At its core, racism is a powerful system that creates false hierarchies of human value; its warped logic extends beyond race, from the way we regard people of different ethnicities or skin colors to the way we treat people of different sexes, gender identities, and body types. Racism intersects with class and culture and geography and even changes the way we see and value ourselves. In *How to Be an Antiracist*, Kendi takes readers through a widening circle of antiracist ideas—from the most basic concepts to visionary possibilities—that will help readers see all forms of racism clearly, understand their poisonous consequences, and work to oppose them in our systems and in ourselves.

**Meeting:** Wednesday, May 25, 2022: 7:30-8:30 PM



# 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 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
22 Mar	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
22 Mar	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circles	7:30 PM
24 Mar	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
24 Mar	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
25 Mar	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
26 Mar	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Group	7:00 PM
27 Mar	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
27 Mar	Sunday	TUUC Listening Session with the Board	12:0 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.

The screenshot shows a web form for online contributions to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church. The amount is \$0.00. There are three dropdown menus: 'Give to 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign', 'Add Gift to Another Fund', and 'Give this One Time'. A red box highlights the 'Give to Restricted Fund' dropdown menu, which is open to show a list of options including 'Give to Building Fund', 'Give to General Fund', 'Give to Green Products', 'Give to Kate Venables Music Fund', 'Give to Memorial Garden', 'Give to ODB Casseroles', 'Give to Plate Collection', 'Give to Religious Education Registration', 'Give to Restricted Fund', and 'Give to Social Action Collection'. A red arrow points from the dropdown arrow icon to the dropdown menu.

**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
03/13/2022	10:30 AM	72 / 41