



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

THE
THRESHOLD

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2022 - 10:30 AM

REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER: "WARRIORS FOR THE HUMAN SPIRIT"

Today Christians are celebrating Palm Sunday and retelling the ancient story of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey as people paved his path with palm fronds in celebration. We know that Holy week ends with the death of Jesus. Yet, according to the ancient story, Jesus knew the story would not end well for him. What kept him going through that week? Margaret Wheatley has written about "how we ended up in a world that nobody wants." What keeps us going? What does it mean to be 'warriors of the human spirit?'"

SUNDAY, APRIL 10 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/95483680605?pwd=cVpCb29WaXZDQXUyaTg3NVB1K0lodz09>

Meeting ID: 954 8368 0605 **Passcode:** 682931

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

We had a good turnout and good discussion of the movie Hidden Figures last Friday night. Our next movie will be Remember the Titans, also sponsored by Cabin Fever and the 8th Principle Team, at 6:30 pm on Friday, May 13. Children in the Kindergarten through 5th class have been and will be exploring the topic of Awakening through stories and other activities, including games, art projects and yoga. As the weather improves, we look forward to more time outdoors in nature and on the playground.

Those in middle school have been learning about justice-making through the calls for empathy, understanding, and courage. We have discussed UU heroes such as Frances Ellen Watkins and Rev. Waitstill Sharp and Martha Sharp, as well as immigration, how to be an ally, and the continuum of anti oppressive behavior.

Teens have also been discussing the theme of Awakening and the service-learning opportunity in rural West Virginia run by Big Creek People in Action, which works to improve housing and health for their community. We will know soon if we have enough teens and adults for a trip this June or if we will hold off until next year. Contact Joyce Duncan, DRE, at tuucdre@towsonuuc.org for more information or to join 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.

CLARE'S COLLOQUY

We see the daffodils, cherry blossoms, forsythia and we are reassured that new life is awakening from winter. "Awakening" comes from the Old English "*awæcnan*" which means to "spring into being, arise, originate." But how do our spirits awaken in this time of war in Europe; this time when the Governor of Florida has signed the bill "Don't Say Gay" into law; this time when many states are passing bills making it less likely that women will be able to access an abortion; this time when the first black woman to ever be nominated to the Supreme Court was asked ridiculous questions reflecting that systemic racism is alive and well in the United States?

The Abrahamic faiths all have holidays this month which encourage awakening: Ramadan offers the possibility of literally awakening to new revelations at dawn and celebrating insights gained through fasting, study, and prayer with a feast in the evening; Easter offers the possibility of awakening to new life after loss and death; and Passover offers the possibility of awakening to liberation from oppression.

What is your own story of awakening?

The Reverend Frederick Buechner wrote, "*The sight of the Atlantic Ocean can do it, or a piece of music, or a face you've never seen before. A pair of somebody's old shoes can do it. Almost any movie made before the great sadness that came over the world after the Second World War, a horse cantering across a meadow, the high school basketball team running out onto the gym floor at the start of a game. You can never be sure. But of this you can be sure. Whenever you find tears in your eyes, especially unexpected tears, it is well to pay the closest attention. They are not only telling you something about the secret of who you are, but more often than not...the mystery of where you have come from and is summoning you to where, if your soul is to be saved, you should go to next.*"

May such awakenings be yours this April.

---Rev. Clare

Auction Event—March 26, 2022

"The auction event of making and painting a gourd bird house went very well. Patty Barry, Susan Woolhizer, and I met in my home to craft these beautiful creations. We enjoyed lunch, crafting, desert, more painting, and lots of great conversing. The bird houses turned out fabulous and just in time for spring nesting." ---Kathy Ramirez



ORDINATION OF KARYN MARSH

On Saturday, May 7, 2022, our own Karyn Bergmann Marsh will be ordained as a Unitarian Universalist minister by the Towson Unitarian Universalist Church. Answering the call to ministry is more than just a career choice. Being ordained into professional religious leadership is a life-changing event, both for the new minister and for any congregation or organization they may serve.

Ordination is one of the most important traditions of our faith. A congregation's decision to ordain someone represents the congregation's faith in, and support for, the ordinand's ministry. In the UU tradition, the ritual of ordination allows the minister to use the title of Reverend. As a formal recognition of entry into service as a UU minister, ordination offers an invitation to individual and communal transformation, as well as an opportunity to serve our faith in the world. Ordination isn't just about one person's ministry. In the UU tradition, authority to ordain ministers rests squarely with the congregation. To highlight the significance and rarity of this event to our congregation, TUUC hasn't ordained a new minister since 1999.

Karyn's journey toward ministerial ordination has included TUUC at almost every step. She's been deeply committed to TUUC from the day she signed the TUUC membership book in 2008 to the present day. She's served tirelessly on multiple committees, been a member of the choir, served as a Lay Worship Associate, was the Membership Committee chair for six years, and spent more than eight years combined on the Board of Trustees and Operations Team, always working for the betterment of TUUC, our community, the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the world at large. She currently serves as an Affiliate Community Minister of TUUC. After an intensive three-year program, Karyn graduated from the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA in May 2020 with a Masters of Divinity degree. She also served as a ministerial intern at All Souls Unitarian of Tulsa from August 2020 until May 2021 and provided ministerial support to the UU fellowship of Charlestown in Catonsville, MD. Following a rigorous evaluation process the UUA accepted her into Preliminary Fellowship, a necessary step toward ordination. In June 2021, the congregation voted unanimously to ordain Karyn into the UU ministry. She is currently serving as a Chaplain at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, providing support to patients, their families, and staff. The celebration of ordination is a deeply moving ceremony that will involve TUUC's congregation, Unitarian Universalists far and wide who have mentored and counseled Karyn on her journey, and Karyn's friends and family. The joyful ceremony will include hymns, songs, and readings, the presentation of gifts, and the laying of hands, a particularly poignant element where the congregation joins as one living body to bless Karyn as she makes her first steps on her chosen path. The service will be presented both in-person and online via zoom. As one of the first live events at TUUC since early 2020, the ordination will also be a celebration of the congregation's return to in-person gatherings.

The Board of Trustees has budgeted \$7,200 for Karyn's ordination - the ceremony itself, a reception for all attendees (pie will be served, of course), a dinner for select guests, and transportation and lodging for our guest minister. TUUC has established a special drive to assist in the collection of additional funds that may be needed. Any collected funds above those needed for Karyn's ordination will be transferred to TUUC's Building Fund. Members and friends may make a donation by visiting <https://tuucdatabase.breezechms.com/give/online>. Use the first pulldown to select Restricted Fund, and to ensure your donation is properly applied, add a comment that your gift is for Karyn's ordination.

Please save the date - **May 7 at 2 PM** - to celebrate Karyn's ordination.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

The General Assembly of UU congregations will be held in person in Portland, Oregon, and virtually on June 22 – 26, 2022. The theme is Meet the Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community. Promotional videos for over 80 workshops are available here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/9361087>

There will be workshops on Beloved Community, The 8th Principle, A Conscious Model of Transformative Justice, Co-Creating Community Ministry, Faith Based Response to Homelessness, Including Islam in UU Sources of Inspiration, Our Vision for a Radical Mental Health Community, Play Workshop for Multicultural Competence, Ecological Civilization - Earth, Religion, and the Human Future, Four Indigenous Spiritual Practices Promoting Flow and Resilience, Restorative Circles - A Pathway to Right Relations, Sociocracy - Governing with Equivalence Effectiveness and Transparency, Wearing Bifocals - Seeing the Nondual through Queer Eyes, and more!

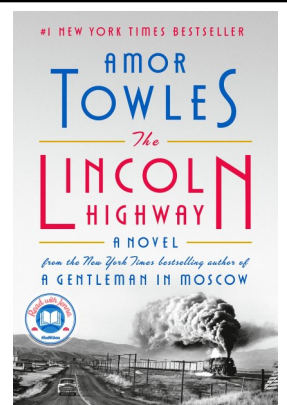
Registration is now open for both in-person and/or virtual participation. Virtual registration costs \$250 prior to 5/1. TUUC has scholarships available; contact Board President Sue Royer if you are interested. New this year is a Business-only virtual voting delegate option. Registration for the GA choir (both in-person and/or virtual) is also now open.

<https://www.uua.org/ga>

TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

7:30 PM



NEWS ABOUT US

John Murray had a stroke a couple of weeks ago and is going through rehab. He welcomes cards, texts, and e-mails. His contact info is in Breeze.



Our loving thoughts are with **Caren Samuels and her family**. Caren's brother, Larry, died on March 28th. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, Vietnam war veteran, Facilities and Construction Coordinator for the Queens Public Library in New York City, author, and civic volunteer extraordinaire. To learn more about Larry, please go here: <https://www.galenafuneralhomeofsls.com/obituary/larry-samuels>

Messages of condolence may be sent to Caren. Her contact information is in Breeze.



We regret to inform you of the death of **Nancy Hannah** on April 5. Nancy faced a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer over three years ago and lived with intention, love, and courage. She made her wishes known from preparing advanced directives to planning her own celebration of life on Saturday, June 25 at 1 PM.

Nancy was a cherished member of TUUC for over 50 years. She shared the gift of her amazing voice with the TUUC Choir. She served as TUUC's Office Assistant for fourteen years. Her determination, thoughtfulness, creativity, attention to detail, energy, and good cheer were greatly appreciated!

Messages of condolence may be sent to Lea through contact information in Breeze.

In January of 2020, in honor of TUUC's 60th anniversary, Nancy said, "It was exactly 50 years ago this Christmas past that I first came to TUUC. This building had yet to be built, but the church – the people – were already a vibrant, exciting, earnest collection of Unitarians!"

She concluded,

"All this to say that for me, the church is first the people, the givers and collectors of memories that bind us together as a congregation, and as human beings. I close with my favorite of all our chalice lightings:

*IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHOM WE LOVE
AND WHO LOVED US;
IN HONOR OF THOSE WHOSE COMMITMENT MADE
POSSIBLE THIS PLACE, AND WHOSE
IDEALS WE CHERISH;
WITH KNOWLEDGE THAT WE ARE INHERITORS
OF BOTH REASON AND KINDNESS;
IN THE BELIEF THAT THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH
IS A LAMP UNTO LIFE;
WE NOW LIGHT THIS LAMP."*



We shall now light our lamps and swing them higher in memory of Nancy Hannah.---Rev. Clare

STEWARDSHIP

Our Stewardship campaign officially ended on March 15; however, you can still pledge and be able to positively impact our proposed budget for FY22-23. Please submit your pledge form today. For inspiration, see the [Stewardship Testimonials on our website](#).



As of March 23rd, 124 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 over 20 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.

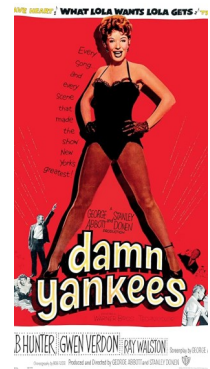
On our website, there is an [online pledge form](#) and a [printable pledge form](#), as well as the [Stewardship letter](#). You have the option of becoming a sustaining pledger.

We appreciate every pledge! We appreciate you!

CABIN FEVER

DAMN YANKEES (1958)

SUNDAY, APRIL 10: 4:30PM



Third Saturday Work Party

April 16, 2020

9:00 AM

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 began rehearsing in the building (masked, vaccinated, and socially distanced) on March 17th. ---*The TUUC A-Team*

RETIREMENT OF JOYCE DUNCAN

Joyce Duncan, our Credentialed Director of Religious Exploration, will be retiring at the end of June. She is looking forward to more fiddling, dancing, and traveling! Joyce began working for TUUC as our Interim DRE in August of 2004. She not only became our settled DRE, she also studied and became accredited as a UUA Credentialed Director of Religious Exploration. We will have many stories from Joyce's creative, energetic, and nurturing leadership over the past (almost) 18 years to celebrate at a retirement party for her at **noon on May 15th**. The TUUC Board of Trustees recently appointed a DRE Search Committee. Members include Angela Castillo-Epps, Lou Gieszl, Eleanor Hughes, and Larry Magder.

We look forward to celebrating Joyce and her leadership on May 15th! And we want to thank her family who have been so supportive of her years of dedicated service to TUUC: Tom Zeller, Leah Balkoski, and Emma Balkoski. Please mark your calendars to celebrate Joyce! We will keep you apprised of the work of the DRE Search Committee. ----*Rev. Clare*

CHOIR IN PERSON!

The TUUC Choir has returned to rehearsing in person! Come sing with us! If you'd like to participate, please email Tracy Hall at music@towsonuuc.org. We are already working on material for Special Music Sunday (in May), plus upcoming music for services prior to then (we will return to singing in services as soon as possible). You'll need to be vaxxed and masked (singer masks are available). We meet at 7:30 PM on Thursday evenings. Please arrive between 7:15 and 7:25 PM to facilitate setting of the chairs.

FAIR TRADE SALE—SUNDAY, APRIL 10 BEFORE AND AFTER SERVICE

The Green Sanctuary Committee will hold its Fair Trade Sale on Sunday April 10th before and after the service at TUUC. We will have fair trade chocolate, coffee, tea, and nuts. Great for celebrating Easter/Passover/Springtime, or to get your regular supply of ethically sourced goodies!

APRIL ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 AT 12:30 PM

Last month we were supposed to go to Heritage Kitchen, which has a Filipino menu, but it is a one person operation and their hours of operation are unpredictable. Instead we enjoyed a Thai lunch at Bodhi Corner. We have found another Filipino restaurant for our April lunch.

We will be going to James Fiesta Grill, 8428 Willow Oak Road in Parkville. **Lunch will be at 12:30, Wednesday April 20.**

All are welcome, but please respond by Friday, April 15 to ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org so we can let the restaurant know how many people to expect. Looking forward to see you!

---Janet Kuperstein and Claudia Sumler

CARING MINISTRY

REMINDER—TUUC MEMBERS NEED HELP WITH MEALS

Please consider helping TUUC members, Stephanie and David Yoo who need help with meals for Stephanie and their daughters while David undergoes medical treatment over the next 2 months. The family has requested 2 meals per week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The details may be found in the Care Calendar.

To access the Yoo family's CareCalendar page, visit <https://www.carecalendar.org/logon/303455> and enter the following information in the appropriate spaces:

Calendar ID : 303455 Security code : 1635

If you have any problems accessing the care calendar, please send a message to lialu1958@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for helping Stephanie, David, and their girls during this time.

SOCIAL ACTION

NONPERISHABLE FOOD

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.)

ACTC TOP FIVE PREFERRED ITEMS

The top five items that ACTC is requesting are: pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, peanut butter, and Pop Tarts.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING— SUNDAY, APRIL 10 AT 12 PM

The Social Action Committee will meet on Zoom, at noon, April 10 (the second Sunday of the month), following the Service and coffee time. All are welcome. An agenda will be sent to all on the mailing list. See church calendar for Zoom information.



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](#)

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.

8 Apr	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
10 Apr	Sunday	Fair Trade Sale—Green Sanctuary	10:00 AM
10 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
10 Apr	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
10 Apr	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Damn Yankees	4:30 PM
12 Apr	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
12 Apr	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circles	7:30 PM
14 Apr	Thursday	In Person Only—TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
14 Apr	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
16 Apr	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
17 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
17 Apr	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Apollo 10 1/2: A Space Age Childhood	4:30 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
04/03/2022	10:30 AM	61 / 39